

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 JULY 1984

Iran

Following FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's departure on 22 July after 3 days of talks with Iranian leaders, his counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati, in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio, disclosed that the discussions revolved around commercial, industrial, cultural, and political relations between the two sides. In addition, Velayati warned Genscher about the stance taken by some Western countries in support of "terrorism" and the leaders of "terrorist" groups against Iran, which contradicts the human rights policies they claim to encourage. IRNA added that the two foreign ministers also discussed the war with Iraq, which Genscher confirmed was started by Iraq, and that Velayati accepted an invitation to visit the FRG. Genscher described his talks as a "success," and an FRG spokesman said that the discussion of human rights was "serious and frank," according to DPA. Genscher was also received by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, President 'Ali Khamene'i, and Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Tehran radio noted.

At a news conference reported by IRNA, Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterated that the Saudi invitation to visit is still under consideration and that such visits could be "useful." He added that Saudi Arabia fears the Iranian revolution and that talks could possibly improve the prevailing atmosphere. Concerning the war with Iraq, Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed out that if Saudi financial support for Iraq were withdrawn, it could effectively end the war. In the present circumstances, the only possible agreement that might be reached with the ruling Iraqi regime is a cease-fire, which is not a real peace and which would be against the best interests of the region, he added.

On the topic of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's possible successor, Hashemi-Rafsanjani offered his personal opinion that Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri's popular acceptance is such that he should become Iran's leader after Khomeyni.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian President Khamene'i said that the ICO committee to end the war actually supports Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and that Iran will not accept renewed peace efforts by the committee, IRNA reported. He pointed out that Iran's attitude is a result of the committee's "passive position" concerning Iraq's initiation of the war, chemical attacks, and shelling civilian areas. On the other hand, an Iraqi official spokesman emphasized to INA that Iraq is ready to cooperate with the committee and to facilitate its work for peace. The spokesman said Iran's accusations against the committee are evidence of Iran's intransigence and rejection of any serious effort to solve the conflict in a just and honorable manner.

In another development, the Iranian charge d'affaires to Kuwait announced at a news conference reported by KUNA that Iran is

preparing a "new attack" against Iraq "soon," the object of which is to end the war. The envoy also denied that an Iranian official recently visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Israel

West Bank Attacks — Both the PFLP and the Al-'Asifah group (anti-'Arafat Fatah faction) claimed responsibility for an attack on 21 July against an Israeli patrol in Nablus, Radio Monte Carlo announced in two separate reports. Both groups asserted that all of the patrol's elements were either killed or wounded. The IDF spokesman, cited by Jerusalem radio, had announced that at least 70 Arabs were detained and a 6-hour curfew was imposed on the Casbah area of Nablus following the grenade attack that left five people injured, including one soldier.

In a related development, Israeli military sources denied an AFP report that the Terror Against Terror organization left a bomb in Nablus' largest mosque, Jerusalem radio noted. The sources said that a small dummy explosive charge was found in Nablus on 20 July and that "local residents" appear to have planted it.

Meanwhile, a KAKH movement member was sentenced to 39 months in jail and 33 months suspended sentence for an attack on an Arab bus in Ramallah 4 months earlier, Jerusalem television reported.

Anti-USSR Pact Denied — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said to the Tel Aviv paper *MA'ARIV* that a *NEW YORK TIMES* report on an anti-USSR agreement signed with the United States is "totally inaccurate." Authoritative sources in Jerusalem noted that Israel has rejected U.S. requests to mention the Soviet Union in any strategic accords, the paper added. Shamir emphasized that Syria represents the main threat to peace in the area.

Lebanon

Diplomatic Developments — Lebanon has agreed to postpone evacuating its guards and liaison personnel from the Israeli office at Ad-Dubayyah until after the Israeli elections, Jerusalem radio announced on 23 July. However, the Lebanese authorities have decided to withdraw the permits given to the Israeli staff allowing them freedom of movement within Beirut, according to a "ministerial" source cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. Earlier, Prime Minister Rashid Karami told the radio that the presence of the office has no justification and therefore "we closed it." Damascus radio praised Lebanon's decision to close the office, stressing "the Arab dimension of this decision."

As for the recent reports of secret Israeli-Syrian contacts over Lebanon, Lebanese sources cited by IDF radio said the negotiations were suspended after the two sides were unable to bridge a wide gap over military details. The talks took place in Geneva between Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad and senior Israeli officials, the sources claimed. However, Israeli sources categori-

cally denied that Israel has held any contacts with the Syrians over arrangements for withdrawing troops from Lebanon, IDF radio noted.

In Damascus, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam discussed efforts to continue progress toward peace in Lebanon during talks with Lebanese ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, Damascus radio reported on 22 July. Earlier, Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* disclosed that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad recently visited Syrian forces in Lebanon and warned them to be ready for an Israeli operation at any time.

Soviet Embassy Attack — The previously unknown "Sharp Sword Organization" claimed responsibility for a rocket attack that damaged the Soviet Embassy on 20 July, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. An anonymous spokesman for the organization said the attack is a warning to the Soviet Union not to continue "direct interference" in Lebanon's internal affairs. TASS linked the attackers with the Islamic Jihad organization, "which unites the most reactionary groups engaging in sabotage and terrorism." Meanwhile, in an interview with Jordan's *AR-RAY*, Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran disclosed that Lebanon will ask the Soviet Union for assistance "similar to that received by Syria" in order to reduce Israeli pressure on Lebanon. A Soviet delegation including a high-ranking officer will visit Lebanon soon, according to a Lebanese press report cited by MENA.

Security — Fresh clashes erupted between the Lebanese Army and gunmen in hilly areas south of the capital, according to reports over the weekend by Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The exchanges of fire centered around Suq al-Gharb and 'Aytat as well as Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima. Nevertheless, the main militia organizations in Beirut — the Lebanese Forces, the Amal Movement, and the Progressive Socialist Party — gathered their heavy weapons at depots in accordance with the security plan, Beirut radio reported.

Hijacking — A man who hijacked a Lebanese airliner on 21 July was remanded into custody after surrendering to the security authorities at Beirut Airport, Beirut radio reported. The hijacker said his action was intended to draw attention to "mistreatment" he received in Abu Dhabi and to protest Israel's occupation of the south.

Western Sahara

Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala denied Moroccan charges that recent Polisario attacks were mounted from Mauritanian territory, Nouakchott radio reported citing a message from Haydala to Moroccan King Hassan. Haydala reiterated Mauritania's desire to remain out of the conflict and stressed that Mauritanian territory has not been used and will not be used for an attack on Moroccan forces. A related Mauritanian press agency commentary cited by the radio held Morocco responsible for any deterioration in relations between the two countries and accused Morocco of escalating the situation by threatening to use military force against Mauritania.

Earlier, in a message to Haydala reported by Rabat radio, King Hassan II had warned that following two attacks in the Western Sahara that began from Mauritanian territory, the Moroccan forces may be obliged to pursue the aggressors to their bases. Mauritania bears full responsibility for events that may lead to "unfavorable consequences," the king added.

However, a Polisario official denied the Moroccan charges that attacks were mounted from Mauritania, AFP reported. The Polisario had announced in a statement reported by Algiers radio that a 19 July attack near El-Aargub resulted in the deaths of 43 Moroccan soldiers and the destruction of large quantities of military equipment.

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PLO's 'Arafat on ICO Meetings, Jordan Dialogue*GF210519 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has expressed thanks and appreciation for the efforts the Kingdom is making under His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz toward the Palestinian cause.

He affirmed that the Palestinian people will never forget the Kingdom's assistance and support for the Palestinian revolution during the siege of Tripoli and Beirut and the great efforts His Majesty King Fahd exerted to guarantee the departure of the commandoes and preserve the blood of innocent people in Beirut and Tripoli.

In a statement published in today's issue of the newspaper *AL-MADINAH*, 'Arafat talked about the efforts the ICO Good Offices Committee is making to stop the Iraq-Iran war.

He hailed the support the committee receives from His Majesty King Fahd.

The committee draws its strength and continuity from the king's support and encouragement for its efforts, he said.

Referring to the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, 'Arafat said: Coordination between Jordanian officials was decided by the PNC in its successive meetings.

The Palestinian delegation is still in Amman to continue the dialogue, he added.

'Arafat on New PLO Initiative for Gulf War*GF221149 Doha QNA in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 22 Jul (QNA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that the PLO has presented a Palestinian initiative to the Islamic Good Offices Committee to end the Iraq-Iran war and that this initiative is currently being studied.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* which was published today, Mr 'Arafat pointed out that this initiative was welcomed by the members of the Islamic committee, explaining that the initiative is still waiting for the committee's collective approval so that it can be presented to Iraq and Iran.

The Palestinian leader said that the Islamic Good Offices Committee has sent messages to Baghdad and Tehran, pointing out that the committee is currently waiting for the two capitals' response to those messages, in light of which the visit of the committee's chairman to both countries will be fixed.

At the conclusion of his statement, Mr 'Arafat said that the Palestinian stance toward the Iraq-Iran war is that it regards this war as a loss for the Palestinian issue because its continuation means the isolation of Iraq and the Arab Gulf countries from the Arab-Zionist struggle.

'Arafat Calls for Conference on Mideast*GF221605 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Jul WAKH — Leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat was Sunday quoted as saying he recently discussed with the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar a new peace plan for the Middle East.

He told *AL-ANBA* newspaper that he discussed the plan with Perez de Cuellar at a meeting in Geneva last month. The secretary general conveyed the outcome of the talks to the Soviet leadership during his visit to Moscow, he added.

Although he adheres to the holding of a multi-national conference under the auspices of the UN to solve the Middle East problem, 'Arafat said a political solution comes through the balance of power and not by begging.

Ruling out the possibility of holding the conference, the PLO chairman said the U.S. and Israel will not agree to attend the conference and the situation in the region does not permit holding it.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat left San'a today after a two day visit during which he held talks with Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

Radio San'a reported that the talks focused on the situation in the Arab and Islamic arenas and bilateral relations.

'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Fighters in San'a'*JN221733 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1610 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has asserted that the Palestinian forces are now waging a real war of attrition against the Zionist enemy. He said that this war asserts to the world that the Palestinian revolution will remain the difficult and basic figure in the Middle East equation.

In an address to the officers and soldiers of the Sabra and Shatila camp in San'a during a visit yesterday, Brother Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the Palestinian revolution is stronger than every before, since it has gained new experience. Today the Palestinian revolution is proving its ability to survive, and proving and that nobody can destroy or control it, because it does not know the impossible.

On the fedayeen naval operation which a joint group of Palestinian resistance men and Lebanese nationalists carried out against Zionist naval forces near the coast of Tripoli in northern Lebanon last June, brother leader Abu 'Ammar said that the commander of the group was martyred after he waged a fierce naval battle, which Israel admitted.

In a statement carried by SABA news agency, brother leader Abu 'Ammar added that the Zionist enemy newspapers have begun to talk about the naval battles the Palestinian forces are waging against the Zionist navy. He pointed out that the Palestinian revolution is waging serious battles from Tripoli to Haifa. He said that this situation forced the Zionist enemy to

shell Al-Aranib Island, and that 22 of these forces were martyred in this shelling. [sentence as heard]

Qatari Paper Cited on Upcoming Palestinian Meeting
GF230811 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Doha, 23 Jul (WAKH) — Press reports in Doha noted today that an important meeting will be held within the next 48 hours by the Palestinian leadership and attended by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Quoting reliable Palestinian sources, the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH* reported that the convenors will discuss the results of the Israeli elections and the future of the PLO unity. 'Arafat will follow up reports on the Knesset elections and the Arab and international reactions to that in anticipation of the general Palestinian meeting, which will define the PLO's position on any new developments. The paper cited the sources as saying that the Fatah Central Committee agreed with the alliance that includes the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular Liberation Front, and the Communist Party, to hold a Palestinian summit in Algiers next Saturday with the presence of the leaders of these fronts.

The sources asserted that 'Arafat, George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah, Tal'at Ya'qub, and 'Arabi 'Awwad will attend this meeting. Discussion will focus on means of confronting the upcoming stage in the event the Zionist Labor Party assumes power, on the repercussions of that on the Arab action, and on the prospects of a political settlement.

Salaf Khalaf Interviewed on 'Reconciliation' Efforts
LD230937 Algiers APS in Arabic 0845 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Tunis, 23 Jul (APS) — Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad], member of the Central Committee of the Palestine national liberation movement, Fatah, announced that a delegation of the Fatah Central Committee may visit Damascus before the next PNC meeting as part of the efforts being made to achieve reconciliation and ensure the success of the council proceedings, which will be held on or before 15 September, in accordance with specifications laid down by the parties to the Palestinian dialogue in Aden.

In a statement made yesterday to the French-language Tunisian paper *LA PRESSE*, Salah Khalaf said that efforts for reconciliation with Syria — which began with a meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the head of the PLO Political Bureau, Faruq Qaddumi — are continuing. Salah Khalaf expressed his belief that a meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Yasir 'Arafat, may need some time. Salah Khalaf denied that the Aden agreement may have limited (Yasir 'Arafat's) authority and freedom of movement. He described him as a man of democratic dialogue and one of the strongest defenders of the principle of collective leadership. He is acting with complete freedom within the political program to which everyone submits. The Palestinian official urged Arabs not to await a miracle

following the Israeli and U.S. elections, pointing out that the Israeli elections are nothing but two sides of one coin and that America acts within the same philosophy, whether the Republicans or the Democrats win.

Pro-'Arafat Organization Formed in Al-Biq'a
NC211504 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Leaflets were distributed in Al-Biq'a signed by the New Dawn Organization [munazzamat al-fajr al-jadid]. The leaflets strongly attacked Syria and highly praised [PLO Chairman] Yasir 'Arafat. Our correspondent reported that the aforementioned organization was established by 'Arafat in Al-Biq'a, specifically in ('It al-Fukhkhari).

PFLP Claims Credit for 21 Jul Nabulus Attack
JN221016 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] George Habash's PFLP today claimed credit for yesterday's attack on an Israeli patrol in Nabulus. It emphasized that all the patrol's elements were either killed or wounded and that the Palestinian commando group returned safely to base.

An Israeli military source said yesterday that one Israeli soldier and five Palestinian residents of Nabulus were wounded when a bomb was thrown at an Israeli patrol.

Al-'Asifah Forces Claim Attack
JN221740 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] A military spokesman for the general command of Al-'Asifah Forces, which belong to the anti-'Arafat Fatah dissident group, said in Damascus today that one of their fedayeen groups launched a surprise, hand grenade attack against an Israeli patrol in Nabulus yesterday. All of the patrol members were either killed or wounded. The Israeli authorities, who admitted the operation through Tel Aviv Radio [as heard], imposed curfew and arrested a number of Arab youths who had been present near the site of the operation.

The Al-'Asifah spokesman also said that all of the members of the fedayeen group were able to escape from the cordon which the Israeli forces imposed after the operation. The PFLP had earlier claimed responsibility for the operation.

Israelis Claim 1 Wounded
JN221714 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1610 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland used hand grenades to attack a Zionist military patrol in Nabulus. The attack killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but claimed that only one Zionist soldier was wounded. The

spokesman said that his forces cordoned off the area and imposed curfew on Nablus. Reports from the occupied city said that the Zionist occupation forces carried out a cowardly retaliatory action and fired arbitrarily at Palestinian citizens. Five Palestinian citizens were wounded.

PFLP Official Discusses Aden Agreement

GF221407 Kuwait *AL-WATAN* in Arabic 21 Jul 84 p 11

[Sattar Jabbar report]

[Excerpts] In a telephone conversation with Bassam Abu Sharif, the spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who is in Damascus, he confirmed to *AL-WATAN* that he will meet with the Palestinian poet, Mahmud Darwish, on 26 July to discuss the problem of the General Union of Palestinian Writers and Journalists and to reach a unity plan that can end the differences among the members of the union.

In reply to the statements by Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], in which he said that relations with Syria are moving in the right direction, Abu Sharif said: "We believe that the alliance between the PLO and Syria is a central issue and that any national Arab forces which want to confront U.S. designs in the Arab region should establish an alliance with Syria."

Regarding relations between the Democratic Alliance and the Fatah Central Committee, Abu Sharif said: "We have finally signed the Algiers-Aden Agreement and publicized it. This agreement represents a national foundation that can open up more opportunities for achieving national Palestinian unity and for restoring the unity of the PLO. Now we are holding a dialogue with the Democratic Alliance in Damascus for the purpose of reaching common factors that can enable us to move toward a comprehensive national dialogue which in turn will pave the way for reaching a national agreement and for holding the PNC session."

Answering a question on whether these steps would limit the power of the Executive Committee's chairman, he said: "One of the most important points contained in the Aden agreement as far as the organizational structure is concerned, is the establishment of a general secretariat to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the PLO. The leadership of the PLO is not going to be a one-man show. Regarding the formation of the general secretariat, Abu Sharif affirmed that it will be composed of the Executive Committee chairman and a number of deputy chairmen. This means that for the first time that the PLO will establish some kind of collective leadership."

He added: "We issued a statement denouncing Yasir 'Arafat's recent statements in Jordan. We believe that commitment to the Aden agreement which was signed in Algiers is an indication of the feeling of responsibility and an indication of the unity of the Palestinian arena and that any attempt to undermine this agreement will represent a strike in the opposite direction."

Answering a question on the rumors that the communique of the Democratic Alliance against Yasir 'Arafat has canceled the possibility of any rapprochement, Abu Sharif said: "Nothing

can hinder the rapprochement except behavior which does not conform with the agreement. We have signed the agreement under the patronage of Algeria and the PDRY and this question is not a joke. The various parties, including 'Arafat himself, should respect their signatures."

PFLP Leader on Internal Liberation Struggle

LD221950 Kuwait *KUNA* in English 1808 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Nicosia, July 22 (KUNA) — A prominent Palestinian leader reiterated that the liberation of his Israeli occupied country depends largely on continuation of the struggle inside the occupied territories rather than outside operations.

Writing in the latest issue of *DEMOCRATIC PALESTINE* magazine, Politbureau member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and chief of the military department in the front Abu Ahmad Fu'ad said "the liberation of Palestine will be achieved, through protracted armed struggle, along with other aspects of resistance to the Israeli occupation."

He emphasized that efforts from outside the occupied territories are helpful but not the essential factor.

The recent operations in the occupied territories such as the April 2nd operation in Jerusalem carried out by comrades of the DFLP and the PFLP's April 12 bus operation from Ashkelon to Rafah in the Gaza Strip are based on continuously striking the enemy forces, he said.

In Lebanon, "the Palestinian revolution exists openly as well as underground. The Palestinian revolutionaries fully participate in the military operations in south Lebanon under the command of the Lebanese National Resistance Front, because it is our responsibility to fight the occupation and we consider that our struggle is united with that of the Lebanese nationalist forces," Abu Ahmad said.

Concerning the Palestinian presence in the Lebanese nationalist areas, Abu Ahmad said: "The Palestinian nationalists have not faced problems or any sign of rejection."

"Our masses in Lebanon have suffered a great deal from the Lebanese fascist forces and Army after the Palestinian revolution left Beirut. Massacres took place in the camps. Therefore, the liberation of West Beirut in February was a great victory for the Lebanese and Palestinian nationalists," he said.

"The Lebanese national forces provided security and support to Palestinians in the camps, allowing them to live freely sharing rights and duties with the Lebanese masses," he went on saying.

On the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, Abu Ahmad emphasized the expansionist character of the Israeli establishment.

He said: "Since 1948, Israel occupied piece after piece of Arab land. Therefore it is wrong to believe that Israel will withdraw from any occupied areas on the basis of negotiations, mediation, or UN resolutions."

"Israel will not withdraw unless defeated by struggle that effects a change in the balance of forces in favor of the Arab forces which confront occupation," he said.

Abu Ahmad said: "The PFLP did not expect a large scale Israeli military attack leading to a war prior to the Israeli elections. However we expect the continuation of attacks against the Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

"Syria today has a military capacity which enables it to hit the enemy hard and thus prevent it from achieving its goals," he added.

Resistance Attacks in South Lebanon Reported

JN201722 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist resistance men launched a machine gun and rocket attack yesterday against a Zionist military convoy comprising several jeeps on the approach to 'Adlun in the Az-Zahrani region. Several Zionist military vehicles were destroyed and all of the occupants were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation and, as usual, did not mention his losses. Eyewitnesses said that Zionist helicopters were observed evacuating the Zionist dead and wounded. The Zionist forces of invasion brought in 2,000 Zionist soldiers who cut off the coastal road, searched neighboring orchards, stormed houses, and arrested several Lebanese and Palestinian citizens under the pretext of searching for the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

Yesterday evening, another resistance group launched a machine gun and hand grenade attack against a Zionist military patrol near 'Amiq in eastern Lebanon. Several Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation and claimed that none of his forces were hurt.

Arab League Committee Meets in Damascus

JN211004 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Damascus, 21 Jul (SANA) — The 16th session of the Arab League coordination committee and its Arab organizations was opened here this morning. Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, a number of ministers, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, senior assistants to the Arab League secretary general, and Arab League staff attended the opening session.

During this session, Dr al-Kasm delivered a speech in which he conveyed President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings and wishes that this session's discussions, research, and recommendations would be on the aspired high level of political and economic awareness in order to tackle the fragmented Arab situation. Dr al-Kasm noted the presence of both a direct and an indirect cultural, economic, and information war against the Arabs. This war is intended to fight Arab political and economic thought and to bury facts under heaps of illusions. He said that there is an information war that intends to weaken the pillars of the political

conflict between the Arabs and their enemies, who are led by the United States and world Zionism. He added that this war also intends to isolate the Arabs from their friends in the world and to destroy the Arab will to struggle in order to replace it with a will of submission.

Al-Kasm emphasized that peacemaking in Lebanon, which neither the United States nor Israel want to succeed, is a difficult process, but it has started. He said that Syria is proud of its role in Lebanon and of this role's success in helping the Lebanese people to restore peace and security to Lebanon after the hardships and the human and material sacrifices that both the Lebanese and Syrians have suffered.

Al-Kasm said: Israel may wage an aggression in order to turn the table of peace upside down, but we are now fully prepared for it. Syria, under Hafiz al-Asad's leadership, will not permit anybody to either hamper the march of national reconciliation or undermine the plans of peace and security in Lebanon. Syria will not permit Israel to expand in Lebanon, the West Bank, Gaza, or the Golan. Under no circumstances will it permit the Palestine question to be liquidated. The Arabs must not fall into U.S. and Zionist traps. Al-Kasm added: We feel that there are no reasons for division and split. All Arabs must deal truthfully and respectfully with political facts and must also draw up an economic and political strategy in order to confront the increasing Zionist danger, which looks forward to playing a role in the Gulf and oil resources. All Arabs must achieve a comprehensive and effective solidarity in this regard.

Concluding, Al-Kasm addressed the participants in the session. He said: Your organizations and funds are asked to make a change in their scientific and economic roles in order to place unified Arab action on its true path. Your organizations and funds, as well as other bodies, are asked to prevent the Arab nation's enemies from turning the Arab homeland's abilities against the Arab countries' desire. The enemies' goal today is to prevent us from achieving an integrated development program.

Coordination Committee Ends Meeting

JN231052 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] The 16th session of the Arab League coordination committee and the Arab organizations and funds which are operating within its framework ended in Damascus yesterday. At the end of its meetings the committee issued an important document covering the joint stand of these organizations toward Arab-African cooperation and the means and methods for bolstering their role to promote this cooperation.

The committee's final session was attended by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, the two Arab league assistant secretaries general, the directors general, the heads of the organizations and the members of the delegations which are participating in the meetings.

Dr 'Abd al-Muhsin Zalzal, Arab League assistant secretary general for economic affairs, granted an interview to the SANA correspondent at the end of the session in which he spoke about

the importance of this meeting, stressing that it is a new link in a series of interconnected links aimed at strengthening and intensifying the efforts of the joint pan-Arab organizations which are operating within the framework of the Arab League in order to entrench cooperation among them.

Dr Zalalah said that this meeting witnessed a new mechanism for operational integration among these organizations, comprising 23 specialized organizations. These organizations have expressed their readiness to bolster the Arab League's administrative and technical apparatus by recruiting qualified cadres.

Dr Zalalah added that by doing this, the organizations have reiterated their determination to achieve successful pan-Arab cooperation through the joint organs. He stressed that the organizations have agreed to work jointly in the spheres of research and hold conferences within the programs dictated by their budgets as a kind of advance coordination which is based on a commitment to carry out joint ventures.

On the Arab satellite which is expected to be launched this November, Dr Zalalah said that the organizations discussed how to benefit from this pan-Arab achievement. He said that with regard to the means for promoting the unified report concerning its activities, the committee agreed on a series of basic

principles that will guarantee that the report will reflect the development of the joint action and its positive aspects in preparation for submitting it to the economic council in its next session, scheduled to be held late August next year.

Dr Zalalah added that the committee also agreed on the need for the organizations to submit a comprehensive program for technical cooperation that would reflect their interest in the African Continent from the premise of mutual strategic interest.

In reply to a question on the cooperation between the Arab League and the United Nations, Dr Zalalah explained that during its meeting the committee had discussed various programs concerning this cooperation, such as holding joint seminars and ways of benefiting from the experience of the UN specialized agencies.

Dr Zalalah concluded by saying that it was decided that the next coordination committee meeting to be held in Tunis in May next year will discuss ways for financing joint ventures, while the committee's meeting to be held in Kuwait in November next year will discuss the issue of pan-Arab cultural security and cultural industries.

GULF AFFAIRS

Environment Official on Oil Leakage in Gulf*GF221127 Doha QNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jul (QNA) — 'Abd al-Latif az-Zaydan, programs director of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Gulf countries, currently visiting the UAE, has affirmed that the Gulf waters are void of pollution resulting from oil leakage from the Iranian Nowruz well, particularly since the main wells leaking oil last September were capped. He said that there are only two wells left leaking gas, and that serious attempts are being made to cap them.

In a statement published by the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* here today, he said that the Western media organs and some companies and establishments which have interests in the region are exaggerating a lot in their estimation of the amount of oil leakage. He said that the average amount of leakage does not exceed 1,000 barrels daily and that the organization's reports point out that part of the oil which leaked sank to the bottom of the Gulf, while the rest dissolved and evaporated.

He said that the organization is currently preparing a study on establishing a center to receive wastes and ballast water belonging to tankers which sail in the Gulf waters.

BAHRAIN

Crown Prince 'Satisfied' With GCC Defense Pact*GF220600 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 22 Jul 84 p 1*

[Text] Joint military co-operation between GCC member states has reached an advanced stage, Bahrain's defence minister has revealed. Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the crown prince and acting prime minister, said joint military work could safeguard stability and security in the area.

Speaking at the BDF [Bahrain Defense Force] headquarters yesterday, the crown prince said he was satisfied with the results already achieved. He was also happy with existing co-ordination between GCC states over air defence.

Shaykh Hamad had earlier reviewed the results of a BDF working party, set up to improve defence co-operation within the GCC. The BDF officers had submitted a detailed explanation about the work of defence technical committees and working parties.

The GCC has already announced a major joint defence exercise in Saudi Arabia during October which will give its general staff a chance to see some of their new plans in action. Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has already said that GCC states would respond to each others defence if called upon to do so.

In recent weeks the Saudi Air Force-operated AWACS jets have considerably boosted their range of operations to include the southern reaches of the Gulf.

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS Reports Minister's TASS Interview*GF221439 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Jul 84 p 1*

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah has been quoted as saying that his visit to the Soviet Union, which was for the purpose of purchasing arms, will also result in closer and more diversified cooperation between Kuwait and Moscow. In an interview with the Soviet news agency TASS, he expressed satisfaction over the results of his visit. The visit demonstrated that the two sides intend to improve relations, he said. "I consider my visit a starting point for more development and consolidation of cooperation in all fields," he added.

In its commentary, APN asserted that the defense minister's visit "was successful, lucrative, and helped in strengthening the Kuwaiti leadership's realistic and constructive policy on the international scene". The agency attributed this fact to many reasons, one of which is "that the visit came at a time when the Arab Gulf situation was still very tense and that it prompted keen interest, because Kuwait has adopted a firm, principled, independent, and nonaligned policy in international relations which is aimed at averting foreign military intervention in the Gulf region and at strengthening mutual relations with most of the world's countries based on the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty, and noninterference in others internal affairs".

APN said Shaykh Salim as-Sabah affirmed "that this policy which is followed by the Kuwait leadership during difficult circumstances, has been highly thought of by the Soviet Union and that he announced that the Soviet Union deeply understands Kuwait's policy which is based on nonalignment and that it was very receptive to Kuwait's call to establish peace in the Middle East, the Gulf region, and in the entire world". APN referred to the talks which were held between Shaykh Salim and Soviet Defense Minister Ustinov and said that the two sides discussed a number of international issues, and that this was characteristic of the Soviet-Kuwaiti relations.

U.S. Confirms No Agreement Yet Reached on Arms Deal*LD201946 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1930 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] Washington, 20 Jul (KUNA) — The United States tonight confirmed that no final agreement has been reached between it and Kuwait regarding the proposed arms deal to modernize the Kuwaiti air defense system. This confirmation came from the U.S. State Department in a written reply to a question by a journalist. The State Department said that the proposed deal will cost more than \$30 million and less \$50 million dollars but so far no offer or agreement has been signed.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Deals With Superpowers*GF211732 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 21 Jul (WAKH) — A Kuwaiti daily Satur-

day affirmed that Kuwait's purchase of Soviet arms is not intended to blackmail the United States which had refused earlier to supply Kuwait with arms. The daily, *AR-RAY AL-'AMM* pointed out that the Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah's recent visit to the Soviet Union was scheduled before his visit to the United States.

On the U.S. recent announcement that it will supply Kuwait with American arms, except the Stinger missiles, the paper said this measure poses as an additional new point in favour of Kuwait's balanced policy.

Kuwait, the paper noted, provided a model to the world on how to deal with superpowers, especially when it made the U.S. review its decision on selling it American arms. The paper stressed that the quick U.S. move in response to Kuwait's requests is to protect its own interests, and added that this indicated that the U.S. will react immediately if it was confronted with a united Arab stance toward the Palestinian cause and the occupied Arab territories.

Press Regrets Iranian Charge's Remarks on Offensive

LD221121 Kuwait KUNA in English 1003 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, July 22 (KUNA) — Several Kuwaiti newspapers regretted Sunday the statement of the Iranian charge d'affaires to Kuwait that Iran would soon launch its long-promised final offensive against Iraq as a means of ending the four year-old conflict and questioned Tehran's ability to score a decisive military victory over Baghdad.

AR-RAY AL-'AMM newspaper said the Iranian official's statement, made at a news conference yesterday, quashed any hopes among the peoples of the region for an early end to the conflict prompted by reports that Iranian officials had visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar to ease regional tension and avert further war escalations. The paper said Tehran is still "dreaming" of achieving a military victory against Iraq although it is well aware that it lacks the needed military strength and that Arab and international politics and circumstances are not in her favor.

The paper said there can be no peace in the region unless Iran foresakes its belligerence and starts immediate peace talks to settle its dispute with Iraq. The paper noted that Iran's insistence on continuing the war gives foreign powers the pretext they have been seeking to intervene in the region.

In a strong worded editorial, *AL-ANBA'* newspaper, however, said the charge d'affaires, Mohammad Reza Baqeri, was reflecting "the distorted mentality of the rulers of Tehran characterized by delusion and high ability to change facts." *AL-ANBA'* noted that the Iranian Government is victimizing all people, and it only understands neighborliness as a savage struggle for dominance and control. The daily said Baqeri affirmed the Iranian Government's adamant insistence of toppling the Iraqi Government and continuation of the conflict.

English language *KUWAIT TIMES* said "statements of combatants threatening to defeat each other militarily do not leave much room for peace mediation." Besides its wordy bombshells

against Iraq, Iran has begun attacking the Islamic goodwill mission that seeks to end the fighting, accusing it of leaning towards Saudi Arabia and Iraq, the daily noted.

The mission announced following a two-day meeting in Jidda, Saudi Arabia last week that it would send its newly elected chairman, Gambian President Dawada Kairaba Jawara, to the two warring capitals with the aim of reviving mediation efforts.

Head of Sudanese Delegation Explains Mission

LD212324 Kuwait KUNA in English 1745 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, July 21 (KUNA) — A Sudanese Government delegation, led by the Minister of Information and Culture, 'Ali Muhammad Shammu, arrived here Saturday evening [21 July] on a three-day official visit.

The delegation, which was received at the airport by Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, undersecretary of information Shaykh Nasir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, senior Foreign Ministry officials and the Sudanese ambassador here, comprises the minister of foreign affairs, Hashim 'Uthman, minister of awqaf and religious affairs, Yusuf al-Khalifa Abu Bakr, as well as Politburo member (Dr Awn al-Sharif Qasim).

In reply to a question, the delegation's leader said they are here to deliver a message from President Ja'far Numayri to H.H. the amir on recent developments in the Sudan, particularly following promulgation of Islamic laws and Sudan's Islamisation.

Shammu added that "it will be an opportunity to meet our counterparts in different ministries to discuss with them these issues and explore mutual relations between our two countries."

Shammu said that the visit was part of a two-week tour in the Arabian Gulf states which began by Saudi Arabia and indicated that the delegation will continue its tour by visiting Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman on the final leg.

Asked whether Sudan's relations with the other states had suffered as result of the recent measures, the official stated that relations with sisterly countries are positive and added that all countries "are following with much interest and hope the course we are now traversing and our tour in the Gulf region is aimed to secure more support."

During its three-day stay, the delegation is expected to be received by H.H. the amir and will meet with National Assembly Speaker Muhammad Yusuf Adsani and Information Undersecretary Shaykh Nasir al-Ahmad.

The delegation is scheduled to meet tomorrow evening with the Sudanese community at the embassy premises here.

Amir Receives Delegation

**LD221102 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT
22 Jul 84**

[Text] The Amir of Kuwait this morning received 'Ali Muhammad Shammu, Sudanese minister of culture and information, and the accompanying delegation, which includes Hashim 'Uthman, foreign minister; Dr Yusuf Al-Khalifah Abu Bakr, president of the Supreme Council for Religious and Awqaf Affairs; and a number of senior officials. The delegation handed His Highness the Amir a message from his brother His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. The meeting was attended by the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign and information minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and Sudan's ambassador to Kuwait.

OMAN**Saudi Defense Minister Arrives for Talks**

**LD211324 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
21 Jul 84**

[Excerpts] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, accompanied by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, arrived at noon today at Salalah on a 2-day official visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During the visit he will hold talks with the Sultan of Oman, Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id.

Prince Sultan expressed pleasure at visiting Oman. In a statement to the press he said: My visit falls within the framework of the exchange of visits between officials of both countries toward bolstering cooperation, exchanging views, and holding consultations on matters of interest to both countries.

He also said that the visit falls within the framework of cooperation and coordination delineated by the commanders of the GCC for realizing our peoples' aspirations for progress and prosperity. He affirmed that the Kingdom was extremely anxious to maintain cooperation with its GCC member countries in all matters conducive to bolstering security and stability in this area and to facing up to all challenges and ambitions directed against it. He said that the best way for achieving this end lies in adhering to the Koran and the Sunna and in furthering cooperation and unity in one rank against all declared and covert plots hatched to disturb the security and stability of the region or to impose any form of hegemony and influence over us.

Qabus Receives Saudi Minister

GF211456 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1435 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Muscat, 21 Jul (WAKH) — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received in Muscat this afternoon Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general in Saudi Arabia. The meeting was attended by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the members of the delegation accompanying Prince Sultan; Fahar ibn Taymur, Omani deputy prime minister for defense and security and defense affairs; Hamad ibn Humud, Omani minister

of diwan affairs; Lieutenant Colonel Sa'id ibn Salim, chairman of the Omani court affairs; and a number of officials.

Minister Makes Departure Statement

**GF230842 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT
23 Jul 84**

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general in the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the accompanying delegation departed the country today after concluding a 3-day visit to the Sultanate. During this visit he was received by His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. They reviewed bilateral relations and issues of interest to the two brotherly countries.

In a predeparture statement to the radio, television and local press correspondents, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: My visit to the Sultanate of Oman was a good opportunity to meet with His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and to become acquainted with the blessed progress of the fraternal Omani people guided by their enlightened and sagacious leadership. He added: This visit comes in accordance with the instructions of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the keenness of His Majesty to support bilateral cooperation and to expand the bases of collective cooperation among the GCC countries.

He concluded his statement saying: I would like to express in my name and in the name of my delegation, our great appreciation for the hospitality and care accorded to us by His Majesty the sultan, the fraternal Omani people, and all the brotherly officials in this hospitable and genuinely Arab country.

Qabus Greets Mubarak on 23 July Revolution Day

**GF221845 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
22 Jul 84**

[Cable sent by Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the anniversary of the 23 July Revolution]

[Text] His Excellency, Brother Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Cairo:

On the occasion of the anniversary of the 23 July Revolution, I seize this opportunity to send you in my name and in the name of our government and the Omani people our sincerest congratulations and heartfelt wishes for your good health and happiness and for your fraternal people more prosperity and progress. Please accept my best regards.

[Signed] Your brother, Qabus ibn Sa'id.

SAUDI ARABIA

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ Confirms Iranian Envoy's Visit
GF201336 Manama AKBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 20 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] Well informed Gulf sources have affirmed to *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* that Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, Iranian envoy for the deputy foreign minister, did actually visit Saudi Arabia recently. These sources explained that Saudi officials told the envoy they will welcome any Iranian official who wants to visit Saudi Arabia, in particular they would like to meet Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The sources said that the Saudi officials were keen to explain to the Iranian side that Saudi Arabia does not differentiate between attacks against oil tankers and its view about the Iraq-Iran conflict in general.

The officials also explained that Iraqi attacks against oil tankers near Khark Island are in retaliation for Iranian attacks against Iraqi ports which deprived Iraq from exporting its oil via the Gulf. The sources said the Saudi officials also explained to the Iranian envoy that if there are any proposals to neutralize ports in the Gulf, then the Iraqi ports should be included.

Foreign Minister on GCC Cooperation, War
GF220411 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] In a statement to the radio and television correspondent and to the paper *'UMAN* on the visit of Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi minister of defense and aviation, to the Sultanate, Saudi Minister of Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-Faysal Al Sa'ud stressed the importance of the continuation of consultations between the leaderships in the two countries so that security, understanding and stability will be prevalent in the region and so that the efforts of the two countries will bring about cooperation among the GCC countries.

The Saudi foreign minister said that the topics covered during this meeting were coordination between the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and the Sultanate in the GCC political and military cooperation, the problems in the region, and a joint assessment of these issues. He said that there is agreement on the measures that will be taken to confront these situations.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war, Sa'ud al-Faysal said that the war developments were annoying and that there is a widespread conviction in the GCC countries that the continuation of this war and its negative effects on the two countries represent a catastrophe for both Iraq and Iran. He said that its continuation threatens instability and would lead to an expansion in the scope of the war, which exhausts both the region's countries and international stability and security.

Sa'ud al-Faysal said that the GCC countries have endeavored to neutralize and limit this danger through contacts with both Iraq and Iran and through international means within the framework of the United Nations to prevent the expansion of this war and to end it as soon as possible, or at least to limit it. He said that

this requires the cooperation of the two warring countries. He called on the two countries, especially Iran, to cooperate with the GCC countries to find a quick solution to this war.

Sudanese Information Minister, Delegation Departs
LD212314 Riyadh SPA in English 1248 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Jidda, July 21, SPA — A Sudanese delegation led by Information and National Guidance Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shammu and Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman left here today after a four-day official visit to Saudi Arabia. They were seen off by Deputy Foreign Minister Abd al-'Aziz al-Thunayyan, and other senior officials.

Departures After Islamic Conference Meetings

Pakistani President Zia Leaves
GF201044 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] His Excellency General Muhammad Ziaul Haq, president of Pakistan and member of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, left Medina yesterday evening after he participated in the committee's meetings which concluded at an early hour yesterday.

Gambian President Departs Jidda
LD210717 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0650 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Jidda 21 Jul (SPA) — President of Gambia Dawda Jawara left Jidda this morning after taking part in meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee which met here on Wednesday and Thursday. He was seen off by His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy amir of Mecca region, Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference organization, General Salih as-Sudays, commander of the Western Region, and the ambassador of Gambia to the Kingdom.

Bangladesh President Ershad Departs
GF201057 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Bangladesh President Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad left Jidda for home this morning, after participating in the meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, which concluded in Jidda early yesterday.

South Korean Defense Official Arrives
LD212128 Riyadh SPA in English 1250 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Riyadh, July 21, SPA — South Korean Vice Minister of Defence Kwon Yong-gack and accompanying delegation arrived here today on a several days visit to Saudi Arabia. They were greeted by Deputy Defence and Aviation Minister for Military Affairs 'Uthman al-Humayd and other high ranking military officials.

UAE

Oil Minister Returns From OPEC Meeting*GF210608 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0525 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Jul (WAKH) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, returned to Abu Dhabi tonight after leading the UAE delegation to the OPEC ministerial conference which was held in Vienna recently.

Upon arrival, Al-'Utaybah said that during the meeting the conferees discussed the world market situation and agreed to maintain the current oil prices and not to increase production. He said it was also decided to review Nigeria's request to increase its production quota on condition that this should not affect the oil market. It was decided to form delegations to visit the presidents of the OPEC countries to brief them on the world market situation and muster their support for the OPEC decisions to maintain the current production and prices, he added.

Al-'Utaybah will chair a delegation, which includes the Algerian and Venezuelan oil ministers, to visit the Gulf countries and Libya.

Al-Baz AKHBAR AL-YAWM Interview on USSR Cited
NC202115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2048 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, has pointed out that the agreement on the return of the Egyptian and Soviet ambassadors to Moscow and Cairo represents a step on the road toward restoring normal relations between the two sides. He added that the step does not in any event mean that there are special relations with the Soviet Union.

In an interview which will appear in *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*'s edition tomorrow, Al-Baz explained that Egypt (?assesses) its relations with the Soviet Union on the same basis it assesses its relations with other countries. He emphasized at the same time that the improvement of relations will always exist but on the condition that the other side is also ready to improve relations on the bases of mutual interest, nonintervention in Egyptian domestic affairs, and noninvolvement in acts on the international level that would harm Egypt's pan-Arab interests.

Continuing, Dr al-Baz said that Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union do not mean that they are equal to Egypt's relations with the United States, because there is no such thing as geometrical balance [tasawi handasi] in relations.

Replying to a question, Dr al-Baz said that no one has military bases in Egypt, adding that Egypt is a nonaligned state.

Soviet Trade Minister To Visit Cairo
NC211311 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA) — Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, today received Egyptian Ambassador to Moscow Salah Basyuni. They discussed arrangements for the Soviet trade minister's visit to Egypt at the end of July. The discussions also dealt with the principal features of the new agreement that will be signed during the Soviet minister's visit to Egypt.

Mubarak Meets With U.S. Envoy Vernon Walters
NC220813 Cairo MENA in English 0800 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, July 22 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received here this morning Vernon Walters, special envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, now on a visit to Cairo. The meeting was attended by Dr Usamah al-Baz, first foreign undersecretary and director of President Mubarak's office for Political Affairs, and the American Ambassador in Cairo, Nicholas Veliotis.

Indonesian Visit Ends; Joint Statement Issued
NC201450 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a 3-day visit to Egypt during which he was received by President Muhammad Husni

Mubarak. He stated that he was pleased to meet President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He said that he held fruitful talks with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, during which he got acquainted with Egypt's view on the Middle East region's problems.

He added that he explained Indonesia's view on the Kampuchean problem. He said that Prince Sihanouk's visit during the coming days to Egypt will be in support of his struggle, particularly as the Kampuchean problem will be submitted to the next session of the UN General Assembly.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that the Egyptian-Indonesian talks provided an opportunity to discuss problems of interest to the two countries.

A joint statement was issued on the Indonesian foreign minister's visit to Egypt. The statement said: The Indonesian foreign minister conveyed to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak a verbal message from President Suharto. The statement added that the Egyptian-Indonesian talks dealt with the international problems of interest to the two countries, and that the talks were held in a cordial atmosphere reflecting strong relations. The Indonesian foreign minister invited Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid to visit Indonesia.

Egyptian-Indonesian Statement Reported
NC201750 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA) — Egypt and Indonesia have agreed to bolster their relations in various fields, particularly in the economic and trade sphere.

A joint statement issued today at the end of Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja's visit to Cairo says that the two sides have agreed to form a joint committee to facilitate the implementation of the bilateral trade agreement. A decision on the formation of this committee will be made following negotiations in this respect.

The Egyptian-Indonesian joint statement notes that President Husni Mubarak received Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, who conveyed a message from President Suharto.

The talks between Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and the Indonesian foreign minister dealt with a number of international and regional issues, in addition to bilateral relations. The statement says that the talks were held in an extremely cordial atmosphere, reflecting the strong relations.

The Indonesian foreign minister invited Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid to visit Indonesia soon. The invitation has been accepted.

Joint Statement on Relations With DPRK Issued
NC221501 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA) — The joint statement on the results of the Egyptian-DPRK committee meetings which were

held during the period 15-22 July was signed in Cairo today. The statement was signed on the Egyptian side by Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Dr Kamal al-Janzuri and on the Korean side by Foreign Trade Minister Choe Chong-kun, who is currently visiting Cairo.

The joint statement stressed the two countries' desire to strengthen the ties of cooperation and friendship between them in the technical, scientific, and economic fields; to exchange visits, expertise, and information to develop cooperation in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, and ship construction and repair at the Suez and Alexandria shipyards; and to study the building of the city of Badr on the Cairo-Suez Road.

The Egyptian and Korean sides agreed that the committee will hold its second session in Pyongyang in September 1985.

The committee was formed in accordance with the general agreement signed by President Husni Mubarak and the PDRY president in April last year during President Mubarak's visit to the Far East.

Mubarak Cables Jablonski on Polish National Day
NC211103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak sent the following cable of congratulations to Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Polish Council of State, on the occasion of his country's National day:

I am pleased, on the occasion of your country's National Day celebration, to send to Your Excellency sincerest heartfelt congratulations along with wishes for good health and happiness to you, and progress and prosperity to your friendly people. My best regards and esteem.

Sierra Leonean Foreign Minister Departs Cairo
NC210709 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA) — Sierra Leonean Foreign Minister Abdulai Conteh left Cairo for London this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to Cairo, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak.

'Ali Meets With Malaysia's Shaffie, U.S. Envoy
NC211705 Cairo MENA in English 1655 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, July 21 (MENA) — Premier Kamal Hasan 'Ali discussed today with ex-Malaysian Foreign Minister Ghazali bin Shaffie on the role of the Islamic Good Offices Committee to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. Shaffie arrived here yesterday on a three-day visit.

Meanwhile Kamal 'Ali has also conferred today with U.S. roving Ambassador Vernon Walters on the latest Mideast developments and the situation in Africa.

Sudanese State Minister for Energy Arrives
NC230733 Cairo MENA in English 0720 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, July 23 (MENA) — Sudanese State Minister for Energy and Mining Yusuf Sulayman Ahmad, arrived here this morning from Khartoum on a 3-day visit to Egypt. The Sudanese official said upon arrival that he will attend the inauguration of the geological and mining centre in Aswan on Wednesday.

Ahmad also said he will hold talks with oil minister Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil and Minister of Energy and Power Dr Mahir Abazah, on fostering relations between the Sudan and Egypt in the aforementioned fields.

Mubarak Receives Message From Nigerian President
NC211910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1845 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a message from Nigerian head of state Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The message was given to Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Nigerian Ambassador in Cairo A.M.S. Imam during their meeting this evening.

Somali Envoy Brings Mubarak Letter From Barre
NC220913 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA) — Brigadier General 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abduh, Somali President Siad Barre's private envoy, arrived in Cairo from Saudi Arabia this morning. He is bringing a written message to President Husni Mubarak from the Somali President.

Butrus Ghali To Visit PRC, Japan in August
NC201350 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1338 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA) — MENA has learned that Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, will visit the People's Republic of China and Japan during August at the invitation of the two countries' governments.

Dr Ghali will discuss with the two countries' officials important international issues, particularly Middle East developments, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the deteriorating situation in the Gulf. He will also discuss the means of strengthening relations between Egypt and each of the two countries within the framework of the agreements reached during President Husni Mubarak's visit to Tokyo and Beijing last year.

Agriculture Minister Departs for Amman
NC221701 Cairo MENA in English 1630 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA) — Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Dr Yusuf Wali left here this afternoon for Amman leading a delegation on a two-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of Crown Prince Hasan. Dr Wali will be acquainted with vegetable cultivation in greenhouses and will witness the up to date methods of cultivation applied in Jordan particularly spray and

dripping systems of irrigation as well as the agricultural mechanization.

Mubarak Celebrates Revolution Anniversary
NC221018 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0820 GMT
 22 Jul 84

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at the Great Ceremonies Hall in the Corniche an-Nil in Cairo on the anniversary of the 23 July Revolution — live]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate.

Dear compatriots:

Commemorating a revolution that changed the course of history is not a task to be performed with repetitive words or festive cliches. This is how I feel today as we celebrate the 32d anniversary of the 23 July Revolution. We have to contemplate the roots of this revolution, to assimilate its lessons, and to learn from it. This is how we can map out the course of our present and future development. We should not allow ourselves to fall into a vicious circle by not seeing our faults out of conceit. We must not get too dazzled with the glow from our own achievements that we sit back and rely on past glories. The latter would compel us to make sacrifices for the sake of the past. We have to keep the spark of life flaming in our souls and minds — the spark that will entice us to work, redouble our capacities, and revive our faith. We have a national responsibility to work as hard as we can to achieve a better quality of life.

Life is progress. We have to react continuously to constantly changing conditions, adapt to international developments, and respond to new modes of thinking. Yet, we must do all this in a way that serves the people. To build a happy society — a society that fulfills the needs of its members and respects their rights and liberties — one cannot stick to dogmas or abide by inflexible theories and practices.

Good principles are always good. To attain those principles, however, one has to adapt. New methods can make goals easier and faster to achieve. This is why we used to move from one stage to another within the course of the 23 July Revolution. Methods have changed; principles have not. Our main objective remains creating a good and honorable society — creating a man that cares for his society and whose society cares for him.

Today, and after 32 years of revolutionary and constitutional building, we must focus our thoughts on the most tremendous and dangerous event in our contemporary history so that we may ask ourselves what has the revolutionary experiment, with all its various tages, taught us? Brother citizens: The 23 July has taught us much. It taught us that the Egyptian people are rich in their vanguards which can lead the ranks with flags of light at times of intense blackness; that the Egyptian people are rich in their youth which explodes with hope when despair engulfs the soul; and that the Egyptian people are rich in the willingness of their sons to offer sacrifices when the homeland calls on them to do so to raise high Egypt's forehead for the sake of the right of millions to have a most dignified life.

'Abd an-Nasir and his loyal companions [applause] responded to the homeland's call, though they knew very well that the gallows were waiting for them if the forces of oppression and corruption triumphed over the desire for freedom and purity. But they remained steadfast and strong. They deeply believed that sacrificing the lives of individuals for the sake of ensuring an honorable life for millions was a fateful responsibility and a national duty.

The people wanted to live. The July revolutionaries were the bold vanguards who embodied the will of the people, and fate responded. Consequently, the people strongly supported the 23 July Revolution from the first moments of its inception, because the millions, backed by their national vigilance, realized that the revolution's principles were the honest brave expression of their lives and hopes.

All hands were extended to the hands of the revolutionaries pledging that everyone would participate in creating a new life in which humanity would be respected, social justice achieved, links among the people established based on a compassionate cooperation [at-takaful wa at-tarahum], the land liberated, a strong army built that would defend our sacred soil and a democratic structure established. Thus, with the people rallying around their leaders, the revolution waged the most ferocious battles inside and outside [of Egypt]. History recorded that the revolution became a symbol for the liberation of man and became a Mecca for the advocates of freedom and strugglers everywhere man's will was humiliated.

The 23 July Revolution taught us that it did not begin from a vacuum and that it was the natural fruit of the persistent will of the noble, brave Egyptian people. The July Revolution was a natural stage of the people's struggle. It came to light for the sake of independence and freedom. It was a lofty stage which represented the sound extension of all uprisings by the Egyptian struggle, and which challenged the most evil and aggressive forces.

We would be denying reality if we said that the 23 July was not affected by the great revival led by Mustafa Kamil, or if we said that it was dissociated from the 'Urabi's revolution which raised the people's determination to face the most decisive challenges, or if we said that it was remote from the people's boundless sacrifices which ignited the 1919 revolution under Sa'd Zaghlul.

I believe the 23 July revolutionaries under Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's leadership bore in their minds, and hearts the history of their country. They forged ahead with faith and resolve to complete the annals of history on the right path. Egypt lost Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, but it did not lose the principles of the revolution. Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat took the banner. [applause] He completed the march to consolidate and safeguard these principles in a new stage and under different circumstances, both domestically and externally. He chose the right path, inspired by the masses' will and aspirations.

The 23 July Revolution taught us that revolutionary slogans cannot live unless they turn into action and unless principles become facts that the people can see in their daily lives, facts with which they move toward a better life. A revolutionary is not the

loudest man or the one who makes the most uproar about revolution. A revolutionary is a compatriot who is sincere everywhere, works before he speaks, gives before he takes, and translates his feelings toward society by sweat, work, and self-denial — not by emotions, shouting, and false claims. Revolution is not a political profession; rather, it is continued sacrifices and ceaseless giving. When revolutionary legality turns into constitutional legality at the hands of the revolution's sons, this is the greatest, most difficult, and most successful achievement of the principles of the revolution.

The 23 July Revolution's achievements, which began in 1952, are an undeniable proof that the 23 July Revolution's principles were born to survive and interact with every development so that they would be a natural reflection of the masses' demands, which change as time goes by. We are not living in an isolated island and will never separate ourselves from international developments. Every new development has its own new problems and different ways of dealing with them.

The 23 July Revolution began by making the greatest and most splendid achievement in the history of Egyptian struggle; namely, the liberation of the Egyptian will. This fundamental achievement was the basis for all subsequent achievements: the elimination of feudalism; the nationalization of the Suez Canal; the establishment of a national industry; the fulfillment of the toiling workers' right to work and share in the government; free education; the Aswan Dam; the rejection of foreign military bases; the payment of pensions and social insurance; protection of national unity; the glorious October victory [applause]; the struggle for peace; the establishment of a sound political democracy based on plurality of parties, after building social democracy; freedom of expression and of the press; and political and economic freedom. In addition to this, there is Egypt's pioneering role in the struggle for Arab rights and for the liberation of the peoples, as well as the establishment of the largest military force in the Arab region.

These are some of the achievements of the 23 July Revolution. This revolution began and continued. It did not stop in its march toward the right goal.

Brother citizens, the 23 July Revolution taught us to look to the future. All the accomplishments that were achieved were previously national aspirations. Had the 23 July Revolution been content with wailing about the ruins of the past and with criticizing mistakes and sins, it would have not been able to continue. It would have lost all prerequisites for its existence. The object of looking at the past is to grasp and learn lessons and to make plans for creating a bright new future.

Digging graves will not build a new house. By tearing up the most magnificent pictures of our past, by avoiding the dialogue of principles and accomplishments, and by distorting the images of leaders and commanders, the competition — in my opinion — continuously causes us to stand rigid, even defeated. This is a call for losing confidence and spreading despair. I do not want to say whether this is an intentional or unintentional attempt to turn out the lights so darkness may prevail.

Egypt's leaders and the commanders of its revolutions and

struggles have achieved great glories, which were an expression of the people's will and a national interpretation of their legitimate desire for their rights in life. If we distort the image of the leaders, we are actually distorting the image of the people who gave their confidence to their leaders.[applause]

Each historical leadership in the struggle of the world's peoples has made mistakes and incorrect judgements. However, mistakes do not cancel out the history of the glorious leaders. Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir waged the 23 July Revolution, which realized the greatest historical step in building a free and independent Egypt. The 23 July accomplishments belong to the people. History's judgement will lay the right framework for the historical events.

Anwar as-Sadat's leadership was a continuation and a protection of the march in the seventies, when the internal and external compositions [mukawwinatuh] of the march varied. The accomplishments of this stage, which peaked when the land was liberated and peace was established, also belong to the people and to history's judgement. The right judgement of the events of 32 years is not the absolute judgement, divested of the circumstances surrounding these events. We do not know of a leader in Egypt's contemporary history who issued resolutions without being fully committed to his national and patriotic responsibility toward those faithful to his leadership. Why then do some of us try to ignore the brightest chapters as if we were a people without roots and history?

Numerous voices mutilated the image of Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid, poured their oppressive curses on Ahmad 'Urabi, and attempted to cast doubt on the struggle of Sa'd Zaghlul. Time passed, and these voices disappeared and were ignored by history. But these patriotic leaders continued to be a shining example of Egypt's glories and victorious struggle for the sake of the people's freedom. Why then these ceaseless attempts by some voices? Is it to engage the people with differences over the recent past, as if our national mission is today confined to fighting over ideas, persons, and leaders, and also as if we have attained all the people's aspirations and only need to settle accounts?

Brother citizens, we still have ahead of us a difficult struggle, difficult decisions, and difficult problems. We will have ahead of us the responsibilities of the present and future — huge and grave responsibilities. Every period of time that is wasted over past wars constitutes an obstruction and exhausts the people's capabilities, which must be strengthened by deep-rooted national affiliation so that construction may develop.

The battles of development dictate that we arm ourselves with a united national will so that we can repay the trust placed in us. Those who destroy will live in ruins.

Brother citizens, today, when we recall all the tremendous memories on the birth of the 23 July Revolution, let us teach others what this glorious revolution taught us. The revolution taught us that Egypt is always rich in its men, who sacrifice their lives and blood for the sake of their homeland. The revolution taught us that it is a natural extension of all the stages of the people's struggle for freedom and for the right to lead a most honorable life. The revolution taught us that it is an accomplishment and

not a slogan. The revolution taught us to look to the future. We therefore can say with all certainty that we managed to accomplish the sixth principle of the 23 July Revolution's principles — the establishment of a sound democratic life. This dictates that we all sincerely and honestly contribute — with seriousness and a pure conscience — toward developing democracy and making it a course of life.

Brothers, we live in a homeland replete with hopes and stability, where no citizen is oppressed, no illegal measures threaten the citizens' freedom, and no one disputes the right of man to own property, in accordance with the Constitution. We live in a homeland where man's work, creative ability, and legal gains are not restricted. There is no supermacy but that of the law.

In a proper society — a society that respects the freedom of speech and does not screen opinions or restrict ideas — there is no room for unfounded conclusions or interpretations. We are working in broad daylight. We do not have both declared policies and secret ones. Our policies are all clear.

We have irrevocably chosen the road of democracy as a means to build a better society — a society where every honorable person can take his due as long as he carries out his responsibilities. No obstacles are being placed in the way of Egyptians. They can take initiatives without restrictions — the only restriction being the sovereignty of a fair law over everyone.

More work means more stability and prosperity in a secure society that knows its way — the way of justice, fairness, and freedom for every man or woman living on our sacred soil.

I plead to God Almighty to fill our hearts with faith and love so that we put our hands together and step forward to build more, accomplish more, and overcome previous obstacles. Let trust and hope tie us together. Let the freedom of every citizen enhance the freedom of the others. Let us face up to all the challenges. Let us all fulfil our duties.

And say: Work...soon will God observe your work, and his Apostle and the believers. [Koranic recitation]. Peace be with you.

Mubarak Meets With Political Group Members *NC2215i0 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with members of the political group at the National Democratic Party conference hall this afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Foreign Minister Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif, and Interior Minister Major General Ahmad Rushdi.

At the 2-hour meeting with the political group, President

Mubarak dealt with the visit which he will pay to Yugoslavia during the first week of August.

The president stressed that this visit will be important in promoting the Nonaligned Movement and in strengthening Egyptian-Yugoslav cooperation at the summit level in this field as well as in exchanging viewpoints between Egypt and Yugoslavia on the area's questions.

Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif said after the meeting that discussions at the meeting dealt with the dimensions of the Iraqi-Iranian war and its development and the results of the reconciliation committee's efforts and its contacts with Iraq and Iran.

Ash-Sharif said the discussions also dealt with Egyptian-Arab relations and the current contacts in this respect. The president reviewed Egyptian-African relations and the expected visits by some African leaders to Egypt during this year.

Ash-Sharif added that during the meeting Dr Butrus Ghali reviewed these visits and the invitations extended to African leaders. He said this year will witness extensive African activity through President Mubarak's meeting with African leaders in Cairo.

Ash-Sharif said the discussions at the meeting also dealt with People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub's forthcoming visit to the United States.

The information minister outlined that President Mubarak's visits to production sites will increase during the coming phase and are expected to begin on 1 August before the president leaves for Yugoslavia. The president will complete these visits after he returns from Yugoslavia in line with his policy to follow up matters in the field and at work and production sites.

Questioned as to whether or not President Mubarak's discussions with the political group dealt with the cancellation of the political isolation decision, Ash-Sharif said this subject was not discussed at all.

Answering another question about the expected changes within the ranks of the National Democratic Party (NDP), the information minister said that this subject was not discussed at today's meeting but that President Mubarak had said earlier at his meeting with the party's parliamentary group of Al-Jizah and Al-Gharbiyah Governorates that he was awaiting the completion of the Cabinet so that he could devote himself to the party's structure.

The information minister added that President Mubarak has now before him several studies regarding changes in the party aimed at increasing the effectiveness of party action and at making it serious and constructive.

Ash-Sharif said the changes will be made at all levels of the NDP. He added that within this framework the party's Political Bureau, the Secretariat General, the party's committees and secretariats in governorates, and the party's mass organizations will be reestablished.

He said the studies currently available to the president concerning changes in the party are based on the parliamentary elections experiment and guided by the party cadres who made constructive efforts during that period to make the party of the majority the most organized and the most capable of making constructive contacts between the base and the top.

Answering a question concerning President Mubarak's directives today with regard to domestic action questions, Ash-Sharif said the president's directives at today's meeting of the political group and earlier at the first Cabinet session will be discussed at the next Cabinet meeting.

Regarding the expected changes at the level of governor, Ash-Sharif said there is no connection between changing governors and the Cabinet reshuffle. We have no plan for changing governors. The president believes that the governors' work is subject to constant appraisal and that changes are linked with performance.

Regarding the president's meeting with the parliamentary groups, Ash-Sharif said the president's meetings with the NDP parliamentary groups in governorates will begin and continue through August and September. They will be confined to two governorates to enable the president to listen clearly to all the issues which the people's representatives may raise and to enable the president to outline domestic and foreign policies and to give a clear picture to the people's deputies.

On the date of the NDP general conference, Ash-Sharif said the date will be set after the party formations have been completed.

Regarding the date of the party's youths conference, the minister of information said the conference will be held in August.

Mubarak Refutes Rumors on 'Political Isolation'

NC221337 Cairo MENA in English 1326 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, July 22 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak refuted today circulating rumours claiming that the cancellation of former political isolation decisions would be debated. Following his meeting today with his political aides the president said those who propagate such rumours want to introduce them within other frameworks as regards the state's policy in the domain of foreign action and its relations with various countries, especially after the decision to restore normal ties with the Soviet Union.

Judgment in Al-Jihad Case Postponed

NC211121 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA) — The Higher State Security Court decided today to postpone judgment in the Al-Jihad organization case until 30 September, when the verdicts will be announced. Court President Counselor 'Abd al-Ghaffar Muhammad Ahmad said the reason for the postponement was that while he was studying reports on the case, he suffered a hemorrhage and a detached retina. He said he was still receiving treatment, which made it impossible to hold any legal deliberations. He added that on this basis, the court decided to postpone judgment until Sunday, 30 September.

20-22 July Armed Forces Communiques**No 1,532: Iran Shelled Choman**

*JN201617 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Communique No 1,532 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 July 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The victorious Iraqi forces continued their valiant activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the vicious and suspect enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units fired on several enemy positions and troop concentrations in the operational area east of Basra, killing one, destroying three infantry positions and two hardware stockpiles, and setting several enemy positions on fire.

2. One of our forward units sighted several enemy vehicles opposite its positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. It pounded them with all types of weapons, destroying one vehicle and damaging one excavator. Elsewhere in the same sector, an enemy soldier was captured with his weapon and was later evacuated to the rear.

3. One of our forward units opened artillery fire on several enemy troops and positions opposite its positions in the Maysan sector, killing one soldier and both destroying and setting fire to one infantry position.

4. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. At 1100 [0700 GMT] on 19 July, the criminal enemy shelled the village of Choman with artillery. Eight heavy artillery shells fell there, causing fires in several houses and shops.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 July 1984

No 1,533 on 20-21 Jul Operations

*JN211630 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Communique No 1,533 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 July 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With an ever increasing force and capability the triumphant soldiers who are defending right continue their defense of the beloved homeland against the forces of the evil Iranian aggression. The results for yesterday evening and for today are as follows:

1. A force belonging to our valiant forward units carried out a daring and successful attack against an enemy troop concentration and several enemy positions in the area opposite its positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our force pounded them with all types of weapons, forcing the enemy to flee after killing or wounding several enemy troops.

2. An enemy force tried to approach one of our forward units positions in the central sector of the battlefield. The force was pounded with all types of weapons. Two of its elements were killed and the rest fled. One hardware stockpile was also destroyed in the same sector.

3. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward units positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our unit shelled it, killing 19 and wounding many. In another area of the same sector one enemy observation post and two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants were killed.

4. Our forward units pounded several enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the area of operations east of Basra with all types of weapons, killing one; destroying two vehicles, one of which is tubular [hawdiyah]; two assembly points; one machinegun; one hardware stockpile; and setting fire to several other enemy positions.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 July 1984

No 1,534 on 21-22 Jul Operations

JN221611 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA) — Iraqi helicopter gunships have attacked the Iranian forces' positions and concentrations east of Basra, successfully carried out their mission, and returned safely to base.

Communique No 1,534 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening said that known enemy losses were 43 killed and others wounded. The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The sons of our brave Armed Forces are continuing their triumphant operations at the front in defense of Iraqi rights and sovereignty against the Iranian ruling clique of evil and expansion. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Sighting an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the northern sector of the front, our forward units pounded them. They killed 31, wounding others, and destroyed 4 infantry positions, 1 vehicle, and 1 hardware stockpile.

2. Formations of our daring helicopter gunships attacked a number of enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite one of our forward units' position east of Basra last night and today. Our helicopters scored direct, effective hits, inflicting human and material losses on the enemy. All of our helicopters returned safely after successfully carrying out their duties, praise be to God.

3. Our forward units mounted concentrated artillery attacks on a number of enemy targets opposite their positions east of Basra, killing nine and wounding others. Our units destroyed four infantry positions, two observation posts and one hardware stockpile and set a number of enemy positions on fire.

4. In the central sector of the front, our forces killed one enemy soldier and destroyed two troop shelters, one observation post, and three hardware stockpiles. Those manning the observation post were either killed or wounded.

5. Two were killed east of Tigris.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 July 1984.

President Receives Message From Gambian Envoy
JN230945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Dawda Jawara, Gambian president and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, dealing with the committee's plan of action during the coming stage.

The message was delivered to President Saddam Husayn by Omar Jah, Gambian ambassador to Saudi Arabia and the personal envoy of Gambian President Dawda Jawara to President Saddam Husayn, when president Saddam Husayn received him here this morning.

President Saddam Husayn reiterated Iraq's complete readiness to cooperate with the committee and its new chairman to serve just and lasting peace in the region, as it has been doing since the committee was formed.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and the president's secretary.

'Aziz Receives Gambian
JN231154 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received here today Omar Jah, personal envoy of Gambian President Dawda Jawara, who is the chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the new move by the committee to end the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

Omar Jah arrived in Baghdad yesterday evening and delivered a message to President Saddam Husayn from Gambian President Dawda Jawara.

President Congratulates Mubarak on National Day
JN230845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable of congratulations to his brother Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the occasion of fraternal Egypt's national day. The cable reads: On the occasion of the national day of the fraternal Arab Republic of Egypt, it gives me pleasure to extend to Your Excellency in my name and on behalf of the Iraqi people, warmest congratulations and best wishes, wishing you continued good health and for the fraternal Egyptian people more progress and success.

We are confident that the relations of brotherhood and cooperation which exist between our two fraternal countries will develop in the interest of our glorious Arab nation, and for the attainment of its aspirations and objectives and the preservation of its dignity and honor.

New Iranian Offensive Will Be 'Oil Disaster'
JN210641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0602 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jul (INA) — Iraq has warned that any new Iranian offensive against it means destroying and burning Khark Island, and turning the offensive into a military and oil disaster.

ATH-THAWRAH newspaper said that Iraq will continue to deal strong blows to the Iranian aggressors on land, at sea, and in the air until they accept justice, right, and peace.

In a commentary today, *ATH-THAWRAH* added that Iraq will not stop its blockade of Khark Island and the Iranian ports, regardless of the covert attempts to limit this blockade or render it ineffective. It said that it is impossible for the Iranian regime to find a way out of this blockade or to penetrate it without accepting the logic of justice, right, and peace, and without abandoning its aggressive, expansionist ambitions.

The paper stressed that the Iraqi blockade will continue to stifle the Iranian regime, and that its tankers as well as the tankers of those who deal with it will remain targets and fodder for the destructive Iraqi missiles. This is Iraq's constant and continuous decision.

Iran Using Own Ships To Transport Oil to Users
JN210945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Vienna, 21 Jul (INA) — Informed oil sources said here today that Iran has begun using its tankers and ships to transfer its oil from Iranian ports to the ports of consumer states. This is because international tankers are reluctant to enter the blockaded Iranian ports.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in Vienna, these sources said that Iran has recently used its own tankers to transfer 9 billion barrels of its crude oil to Japanese ports. The sources pointed out that the tempting \$7 a barrel reduction in Iranian oil prices has not encouraged oil companies to risk carrying oil from Iranian ports and run the Iraqi blockade. These sources further said that due to the risks involved in entering Iranian ports, the rates of insuring and transferring Iranian oil to the outside world has reached \$5 [as received], something which prompted the Iranian authorities either to buy or lease a number of tankers and ships in order to transfer oil directly to the ports of the consuming states and reduce the effects of the exorbitant rates imposed on their oil.

Previous contracts with oil companies did not commit Iran to any guarantees concerning the transfer of oil. This helped Iran to market its oil easily, because the companies themselves used to load and transfer the oil to the consuming states.

Paper Scores Iranian Move Toward Gulf States

JN220644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* has said that the recent Iranian movement [tahruruk] toward the Arab Gulf states is a new link in the chain of plotting against the Arab nation.

In an article today, the paper asserts that international and Zionist sides have joined certain Arab regimes in drawing up the plan of this movement. It indicates that this movement aims at splitting the unity of the Arab Gulf countries in an attempt to isolate Iraq and deprive it of the fraternal Gulf aid that supports it in the face of the Iranian aggression.

It adds: Iran's rulers imagine that suspending Gulf aid will defeat Iraq in the battle and, subsequently, enable them to swallow up the Arab Gulf countries one after another.

The paper emphasizes that the Iranian rulers' aims from their movement in the region are mere delusions and a mirage, because Iraq's steadfastness is derived from its intrinsic power and from its people's courage in defending the honor of both the homeland and nation, and because the brothers in the Gulf are so well acquainted with affairs that they can expose the dimensions of such a scheme.

It points out that the Arab Gulf peoples realize that there can be no security in the Gulf region without a halt to the aggressive war which the Khomeyni regime is insisting on continuing against Iraq.

Concluding, the paper says: Due to these reasons, the Iranian rulers' moves toward the Gulf region cannot attain their set objective.

Iranian Rejection of Islamic Committee Denounced

JN220733 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA) — Iraq has welcomed the commissioning of Gambian President Dawda Jawara to chair the Islamic Good Offices Committee and emphasized its readiness to cooperate with him and facilitate the Committee's work for peace.

In a statement to INA here today, an official spokesman indicated that the Iranian rulers' accusation of the Committee being biased toward Iraq is evidence of their intransigence and rejection of any serious effort to solve the Iraq-Iran conflict in a just and honorable manner.

The spokesman pointed out that the Iranian regime is attacking the Committee, although it was formed according to a decision by the Islamic countries' heads of states or governments at the third Islamic summit conference in At-Ta'if, and despite the fact that the fourth Islamic summit conference in Casablanca at the beginning of this year recommended that the Committee should continue its efforts to establish peace between the two countries.

The spokesman recalled that the Iranian regime has not only attacked this Committee, but also has accused the UN Security

Council of being biased toward Iraq and refuses to comply with its resolutions on these grounds. He said that the Tehran rulers consider any side that does not agree with their viewpoint as biased toward Iraq, and rejects their conditions on the way to solve the conflict — conditions that would allow them to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs.

He indicated that this Iranian behavior affirms the soundness of the principled Iraqi stands that are accepted by the international community, and emphasizes this regime's intransigence that is rejected by this community.

The spokesman said: Therefore, the Iranian rulers find themselves isolated from the world, imagining that the whole world is biased toward Iraq.

It is noteworthy that Iranian President Khamene'i and his Foreign Minister Velayati have strongly attacked the Committee's efforts. They stressed that the Iranian regime will not cooperate with these efforts and accused the Committee of being biased toward Iraq.

Planning Minister Receives Polish Delegation

JN221627 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Planning Minister Samal Majid Faraj received today (Vasak Olvar), Polish deputy minister of housing and construction [name and title as heard], and his delegation. They reviewed the scope of economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The Polish ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Exiled Iranian Imam Interviewed in Kuwait

GF221954 Kuwait AL-ANBA in Arabic 21 Jul 84 p 21

[Interview with Imam 'Ali Tehrani, by AL-ANBA correspondents 'Adnan ar-Rashid and Bibi al-Marzuq in Baghdad — date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Adnan ar-Rashid and Bibi al-Marzuq] What is your stand toward the regime in Iran after the fall of the shah, and when did your differences with the Khomeyni regime begin?

['Ali Tehrani] After the fall of the shah's regime and the success of the Iranian revolution, I did not hold any specific responsibilities because I am a man of religion first and foremost. Eight months after the start of Khomeyni's regime, my clandestine opposition to his regime began. This happened during the presidential elections. After that, my opposition became public, and I was imprisoned for 8 months because of it, followed by a 2-year house arrest, after which I fled to Iraq secretly. The reasons for my fleeing were to make public the reality of the regime ruling in Iran; to reveal the truth of the status quo in Iran; to express my utter conviction that Khomeyni and his regime has deviated from the line and aims of the revolution directed toward achieving freedom, justice, and equality; and to expose the clear signs of Khomeyni's leadership style of oppression, suppression,

and tyranny. I believe that Iran has not had a regime as bad as the one currently ruling it.

[Ar-Rashid and Al-Marzuq] As you are one of opponents of Khomeyni, have you cooperated with the other Iranian opposition parties?

[Tehrani] So far, I have not cooperated with any Iranian group opposing Khomeyni. My opposition to him differs from the opposition of others. I want to rid the Iranian people of Khomeyni's oppression.

[Ar-Rashid and Al-Marzuq] Why are you not coordinating with the Iranian opposition, particularly the religious opposition?

[Tehrani] I personally believe that the existing religious opposition lacks total awareness. It is difficult to coordinate with it despite the fact that there are many opposition parties, including clandestine ones, in Iran.

[Ar-Rashid and Al-Marzuq] Many people have been accused of bombing the Islamic Republican Party [IRP] building and killing the late President Raja'i. Have you any information about this?

[Tehrani] The bombing of the Islamic Republican Party's headquarters, which resulted in the killing of Dr Beheshti and 80 other party members, was conducted by one of the prominent journalists in Iran, named Kolahi. He placed the bombs in the building, but left a few minutes prior to the explosion. They found a bag belonging to him among the wreckage, but Kolahi was not among those killed. He has left Iran for an unknown destination. I would like to stress that this bombing operation was plotted basically by members of that party and not by the opposition to the Iranian regime as has been said.

Kashmiri, head of the security office in Tehran, was behind the killing of President 'Ali Raja'i.

The bombs were placed in the same way as those which exploded in the explosion of IRP headquarters.

In general, the bombing and the killings and the physical liquidation that have taken place represent Khomeyni's style of getting rid of his rivals and opponents of his regime, especially the moderates. He does not want moderation or opposition. He wants all the people to follow him and to support all he says and does.

Briefs

Food Self-Sufficiency — Baghdad, 21 Jul (INA) — Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, said that in the near future Iraq's agricultural production will be larger than local consumption. In a statement to *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, the minister said that Iraq will soon realize self-sufficiency in food. Iraq has reached self-sufficiency in a number of agricultural products. [Excerpt] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 0525 GMT 21 Jul 84 JN]

Plane Dismantled, Reassembled — Baghdad, 21 Jul (INA) — Iraqi engineers and technicians have completely and successfully dismantled and reassembled an Iraqi Airlines Boeing 737. This is the first time that Iraqi engineers have been able to dismantle all parts of the plane, perform maintenance work, and reassemble the parts. [Excerpt] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1104 GMT 21 Jul 84 JN]

Ramadan, USSR Envoy Meet — Baghdad, 21 Jul (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met here at noon today with USSR Ambassador in Baghdad Viktor Minin. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and ways of promoting them in all spheres. [Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 21 Jul 84 JN]

Reportage on Hijacking of MEA Airliner to Beirut**MEA Airliner Reported Hijacked**

*NC211006 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1002 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] A Middle East Airlines [MEA] plane with 139 passengers aboard was hijacked in Lebanese skies. We will provide the details as soon as we have them.

VOL Update on Hijacking

*NC211038 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1018 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] The latest report we have received about the hijacked Middle East Airlines [MEA] plane says that contacts are underway for landing at Nicosia Airport [as heard]. Captain Hawwa, piloting the aircraft, said 10 minutes ago that the aircraft can only fly for 25 minutes because it is about to run out of fuel. Beirut Airport authorities, however, asked the captain to continue flying for 18 minutes until someone comes to the airport to negotiate with the hijackers. Should this person fail to arrive at the airport, the aircraft will be forced to land at an airport in Cyprus.

The captain said he can remain in the sky for a maximum of 20 minutes to complete the negotiations. Captain Samir Kbabah is assisting Captain Hawwa Hanna Hawwa.

The MEA airliner has 139 passengers and took off from Abu Dhabi at 1015 Beirut time. Among the three hijackers is a man called 'Atif Zayd. The hijackers asked to refuel the aircraft in order to return to Abu Dhabi. One of the hijackers threatened to open a bottle believed to contain explosives.

A meeting is now being held in the Civil Aviation Directorate attended by Airport Security Director Yasin as-Sywayd and the airport chairman. [Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 1035 GMT on 21 July, in a similar report, adds that the Cyprus Government has approved the MEA pilot's request to land in Cyprus]

Plane Lands in Beirut

*NC211106 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1101 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] The hijacked Middle East Airlines plane landed at Beirut International Airport a short while ago. Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf has started negotiations with the hijackers. We will provide you with other details as soon as we receive them.

Women, Children Released

*NC211141 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1124 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] We received information a short while ago that all the passengers of the Middle East Airlines aircraft, which was hijacked by three persons, have been released. We can say the

release or the solution reached is the result of efforts by Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf after negotiating with the hijackers.

I have just received another report clarifying that only the women and children were released. Most of the passengers are still being held hostage. Air traffic at the airport is now normal.

Hijacker Demands News Conference

*NC211154 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1142 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] The hijacker of the Middle East Airlines plane, 'Atif az-Zayn, is now demanding to hold a news conference at the airport. One of the other two hijackers is in the cockpit and the other is standing at the rear of the airliner. Approximately 44 passengers out of 139 are still in the airliner following the release of the women and children.

A short while ago, Amal Movement Politburo Member Haytham Jum'ah went to the airliner to negotiate with the hijackers. We remind you that Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf is following up the negotiations from the control tower. Jabal Lubnan Public Prosecutor Maurice Khawwam is now questioning the released women and children.

Negotiations in Progress

*NC211213 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1202 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] We have just been handed the following report: Negotiations are still in progress between the three hijackers and the Amal Movement Political Bureau member, lawyer Haytham Jum'ah, inside the hijacked airliner. Captain Samir Kabbabah left the airliner and is now giving a statement to Jabal Lubnan Public Prosecutor Maurice Khawwam. Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf is in the meantime continuing his contacts with officials.

We also have just been informed that there are 4 men and 15 children among the 96 released passengers and that 44 passengers are still being held hostage.

Liberation of South Demanded

*NC211219 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1134 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] According to preliminary reports, the hijacked Middle East Airlines plane is a Boeing 727. It was on a flight from Abu Dhabi to Beirut. While it was in Lebanese airspace, three gunmen took control of the aircraft. It has been reiterated that the leader of the group is from the Az-Zayn family. The hijackers demand, according to preliminary information, the liberation of the south. They also demand that the Lebanese Government give more attention to southern Lebanon.

Former Minister Khalid Junblatt went immediately to the airport as an envoy of Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and

transport. Zuhayr Baydun, director general of Civil Aviation; Brigadier General Yasin Suwayd, director of airport security; Major Muhammad Matar, chief of public security at the airport; Richard al-Muja'is, Middle East Airlines manager at the airport; and Jabal Lubnan Prosecutor General Khalil Hammud also arrived at the airport. They went immediately to the control tower and started negotiations with the hijackers. The hijackers delivered one message to the control tower demanding that south Lebanon be liberated from Israeli occupation and that the south be given more attention. They soon ceased the dialogue. Contacts are underway with the hijackers to resume the dialogue between the two sides.

Meeting With Envoy Refused

*NC211232 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1223 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] The latest report we have received on the hijacked Middle East Airlines plane is that the hijackers have asked Minister Joseph Skaf to go to the control tower to talk to them. Amal representative Haytham Jum'ah earlier entered the airliner, where he is still negotiating with the hijackers. The hijackers refused to receive Khalid Junblatt, who was sent by Minister Walid Junblatt to negotiate with them.

Airliner Passengers Released

*NC211259 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1254 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] We have just received the following report from the news desk: The crisis of the hijacked airliner ended 2 minutes ago. The news conference was not held as hijacker 'Atif az-Zayn changed his mind and asked only to be photographed by journalists at the airliner door. Buses are taking the released passengers to the airport lounge.

Hijacking Incident Reportedly 'Settled'

*NC211422 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] The incident involving the hijacking of the Middle East Airlines Boeing 720 jetliner was settled at 1530 this afternoon following intensive negotiations at the Beirut international Airport. The hijack operation ended when a press conference was arranged at the steps of the airliner at which the lone hijacker 'Atif az-Zayn spoke about the situation in south Lebanon and called for its liberation from Israeli occupation.

Junblatt Condemns Hijacking

*NC211855 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Excerpts] The hijacking of a Middle East Airlines plane ended with the handing over of the hijacker to judicial authorities.

Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism, sent former Minister Khalid Junblatt and Muhsin Dallul, deputy

leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, to Beirut Airport immediately after hearing of the hijacking. Minister Junblatt directed his two envoys not to allow the hijacked plane to take off before freeing the passengers and before the hijacker surrendered. The envoys informed the appropriate quarters in the Civil Aviation Directorate and the airport's security authorities of the minister's orders and the necessity of implementing them whatever the results in order to put an end to tampering with the citizens' security and hindering the security plan process.

It appeared to Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf, and to the officials after interrogating the hijacker who surrendered, that the reason for his operation was purely personal.

Minister Junblatt, who followed up the hijacking operation, has denounced and condemned it. He stressed the need to put a definite end to such actions, affirming that no one should be allowed to tamper with the airport's security.

The appropriate security authorities were prepared to storm the plane, free its passengers, and arrest the hijacker, but the hijacker agreed to surrender and all passengers were freed.

The public prosecutor in Jabal Lubnan, Judge Maurice Khawwam, has concluded the interrogation of the hijacker. He issued a warrant for the hijacker to be placed in custody. It was revealed that his name is 'Atif 'Ali Zayn who was born in Tyre in 1927. 'Atif said that he hijacked the plane after he was mistreated in Abu Dhabi. He said that as he is a citizen of the south and he will not accept such treatment. He added that he wanted to show his rejection of threats and said that he has not harmed any of the passengers. He asserted that all he aimed to do was to draw attention to the mistreatment he received in Abu Dhabi and to remind people of the southern question and the Israeli practices there.

Judge Khawwam will continue his investigations.

RPG Shell Reportedly Hits Soviet Embassy

*NC201905 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Text] A strong explosion was heard at 2140 tonight. It appeared that it was caused by the firing of an RPG-7 at the Soviet Embassy in Corniche al-Mazra'ah. According to preliminary reports, the explosion caused material damage to the building.

Fire Extinguished

*NC201944 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Text] An explosion rocked the Soviet Embassy in West Beirut at 2145. Information reaching us says that fire fighters and civil defense squads managed to extinguish the fire that broke out as a result of the rocket which was fired at the embassy near the Gondole confectionery in Corniche al-Mazra'ah.

Personnel of the 6th Brigade have cordoned off the area, making it difficult for us to know if there are human losses.

Organization Threatens Soviets

NC210611 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic* 0515 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] Unidentified persons fired a rocket at the Soviet Embassy building at about 2145 last night, hitting the second floor and causing material damage. It was reported that the rocket was fired from a gas station 150 meters from the embassy.

An unidentified person, maintaining that he spoke for the Sharp Sword Organization [As-Sayf al-Had], a previously unknown organization, contacted AP and said the organization was responsible for the attack. He pointed out that the operation was carried out because the Soviet Embassy has become an espionage center.

The organization said the attack is a warning to the Soviet Union not to continue its direct interference in Lebanon's domestic political affairs. It threatened to reach every Soviet in Lebanon, saying that the will that forced the Americans and French to withdraw can make the earth shake under the Soviets' feet.

A rocket was fired last May at the Soviet cultural center. We recall here that a high-level Soviet delegation is expected to arrive in Beirut shortly. We also point out that Minister Nabih Birri recently paid a 1-week visit to Moscow.

Al-Murabitun on Embassy Attack

NC211338 *(Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon*
in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Commenting on the attack against the Soviet Embassy in Beirut, a responsible source in the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun has said the following:

While everyone is satisfied with the need to complete the security plan far removed from the dangers of security, social, and political decentralization, an attack has been made against the Soviet Union's Embassy. This attack has been condemned and denounced. The incident will only benefit the enemy's internal and external plans.

Internally, the attack against the Soviet Embassy would achieve the goals of hostile plans against claims foreign missions are protected and support comments that security in West Beirut is lacking. Externally, it aims to destroy the formula of existing relations with the Soviet Union — which no one doubts the effectiveness of — and its role in Lebanon and the area.

Within this framework we confirm our confidence that the incident increases our adherence to relations of friendship which must not be affected by any passing incident.

Embassy Receives New Threats

NC221517 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic* 1415 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, the Soviet Embassy, which was subjected to a rocket attack,

received new threats yesterday. It is reported that the embassy is considering moving to the B'abda area.

'Ranking' Soviet Delegation To Visit Soon

NC211401 *Cairo MENA in Arabic* 1350 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Beirut, 21 Jul (MENA) — The Lebanese newspaper *AL-'AMAL* has reported that a ranking Soviet delegation will soon visit Lebanon. It added that the delegation will include a prominent high-ranking officer, particularly since the Soviet Union has in the past proposed to supply Lebanon with arms necessary for the reconstruction of the Lebanese Army.

Karami on Security, Closure of Israeli Office

NC211257 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic* 1115 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] At a meeting in B'abda Palace today, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami assessed security gaps in Beirut and other security concerns and ways of containing them. Following the meeting that continued until 1345, Prime Minister Karami answered newsmen's questions:

[Begin recording] [First Reporter] What are the issues you discussed with his excellency the president?

[Karami] The discussions focused on the current situation, particularly the security situation and the rumors circulating that the matter is no more than [words indistinct] and that it is a matter of few months. This perhaps points to the parties behind such views. As a matter of fact, we are working to establish a permanent peace in Lebanon and our security plan clearly indicates this goal. We are confident that the arrangements we have made are proceeding normally. As for the mountain, the [security] plan will be implemented there shortly, God willing. There are rumors which focus on partition and cite as examples the issue of the Army and what is going on in Beirut. They mention the 5th, 6th, 8th, and 10th Brigades, and I do not know what brigades they mean. They use this as a pretext to say that there is a security partition and that this will lead to partition in Lebanon. I want to reassure everyone that the political accord that has been reached on the basic principles, primarily, the unity of the Lebanese people, land, and establishments, are some of the basic pillars which have not and will not change.

[Second Reporter] Your Excellency, these rumors you mention may be based on actions which have accompanied discussions on the security plan and political accord, actions which disturb and prevent the implementation of the security plan.

[Karami] There is no doubt that the vestiges of 10 years of acute conflicts cannot be removed completely and no one can ensure that incidents will not occasionally occur. We, however, are proceeding on our path and we are reassured about our plan. Therefore, we will not go backwards. We promise that we will forge ahead, God willing.

[Third Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, regarding southern Lebanon, the Lebanese Government has made a decision regarding

the liaison office in Ad-Dubiyah and the Lebanese military liaison committee has been withdrawn. This issue has created repercussions for the south. Is the Lebanese Government capable of confronting these repercussions and the possibility of the south being isolated?

[Karami] We act according to our interests and sovereignty. This office was one of the fruits of the 17 May agreement. After abrogating this agreement and after Israel withdrew from Beirut, there was no justification for this office and for this reason we closed it. [end recording]

On Security for North

*NC221530 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT
22 Jul 84*

[Text] President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami will meet tomorrow to evaluate the implementation of the security plan in light of the obstacles it is facing.

Prime Minister Karami said in Tripoli today that the security plan is driving its way to the north and that nobody can stand in its way.

Karami's statement was made in response to the demands of Tripoli citizens for a security plan to stop the clashes which break out daily between the Islamic Unification Movement and the Democratic Arab Party. The clashes were renewed today after a night during which rockets were traded between the two sides.

Karami, Canadian, UAE Envoys Review Situation

*NC201436 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami met at Government House this morning with the Canadian ambassador to Lebanon, David Jackson, and discussed with him the conditions in Lebanon and bilateral relations.

Later in the morning, the prime minister, who also holds the foreign affairs portfolio, met with the charge d'affaires of the UAE, Ibrahim Sayf, who returned to his post this week. Discussions centered on mutual matters of interest to both Lebanon and the UAE. In a statement later, the UAE diplomat said that he had exchanged views with the prime minister on conditions in the country and had assured him of the support of his country for the efforts of the government to restore peace and stability in the country.

Karami Criticizes Shi'ite-Controlled Channel 7

*NC201627 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] Security, political, information, and military gaps facing the implementation of the security plan in Beirut have become a source of anxiety for various official functionaries. These gaps are quite evident in the armed organizations' excesses and sectarian practices against the Christians in West Beirut.

This was expressed today by Prime Minister Rashid Karami when he strongly criticized the news bulletins telecast over Channel 7, which is dominated by the Shi'ite Amal Movement. The prime minister asked the editors of Channel 7 to resort to objectivity when preparing the news bulletins, to focus on everything bound to reunify the Lebanese ranks, to wipe out sectarianism, and to base the general political trend on the government's policy statement. Karami affirmed that he felt disgusted upon watching the news on Channel 7, adding that the news bulletins do not express the unified stands required at this fateful phase through which Lebanon is currently passing.

Karami Satisfied With Arab Diplomats' Return

*NC201954 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has expressed satisfaction with the beginning of the Arab diplomats' return to Lebanon, hoping that the return will be raised to the ambassadorial level. Karami has expressed satisfaction with the steps taken by the military command for bridging security gaps in Greater Beirut, emphasizing the need for solving problems which may arise or which are created in order to hinder the salvation process.

SSNP Leader Meets Karami, Makes Statement

*NC201956 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received a delegation of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party led by In'am Ra'd at his residence in 'Ayn at-Tinah tonight. Karami reviewed with the delegation the general situation in Lebanon in light of current efforts to extend the security plan to include all Lebanese areas. The talks also dealt in detail with the situation in the north, particularly in Al-Kurah.

Following the meeting, Ra'd said: We discussed the general political situation in Lebanon. Foremost among the subjects discussed was the security plan in general, particularly in relation to the north. Stressed was the principle that the plan should aim at safeguarding the people's and territorial integrity, reopening links between areas, and preventing any security partition.

He added: The talks also dealt with political reforms in accordance with a program drafted by the government and the constituent body which we believe must represent the political and principal inclinations in Lebanon, particularly the parties and progressive forces. In general, we would like to affirm our confidence in Prime Minister Karami and his efforts at this phase to restore Lebanon's integrity, national independence, and Arab affiliation. The south was also among the topics discussed.

Karami Meets Press, Editors Association Chairmen

*NC211408 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received the Press and Editors Association chairmen, Muhammad al-Ba'labakki and

Milhim Karam, at the Government House this morning. Al-Ba'labakki and Karam asked the prime minister about the incident of the attempted assassination of their colleague Talal Salman, chief editor of *AS-SAFIR*.

Prime Minister Karam welcomed Al-Ba'labakki and Karam and affirmed his satisfaction with the press' adherence to self-censorship which spares the country many dangers. He called for continuous cooperation between the authorities and the press in order to consolidate national unity and stability. Karam said that he welcomed all matters raised by the two chairmen and that he would meet the press demands because Lebanon is very grateful to the press. He stressed that the government will do everything possible to uncover the perpetrators behind the attempted assassination of Talal Salman.

Prime Minister Karam said: An in-depth study must be prepared about the militias and armed men who do not accept anything other than the logic of the rifle to establish a normal situation and to devote efforts for reconstruction and economy. The people must be concerned with their own interests and welfare. There must be self-conviction by every citizen. We have had enough conflicts, destruction, and bloodshed. Lebanon belongs to all of us and we must do everything to unite it and accelerate its recovery.

Speaking about the official media, the prime minister said: We must deal with the official media in an appropriate way because Lebanon's unity can only be manifested through the unity of its institutions. The unity of the media must proceed with the beginning of the march to recovery and stability. He concluded by thanking the press for its efforts and affirming that the government puts its hand in the hand of the press for the welfare and prosperity of the citizens.

More on Meeting

NC211457 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] The government is determined to mix the Army Brigades on a sectarian basis to ensure that there are no sectarian divisions within the Armed Forces as the first step towards the total amalgamation of all Army units and, ultimately, of all Lebanese. This was declared by Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who told the heads of the Unions of Publishers and Journalists Muhammad al-Ba'labakki and Milhim Karam that a 10-year war could not be ended in 10 days, nor could it end with a decree.

Al-Ba'labakki and Karam were calling on the prime minister to discuss the attempted assassination of the *AS-SAFIR* Publisher and Chief Editor Talal Salman. They reported on information they had on the issue and requested that prompt efforts be exerted to identify the culprits and bring them to justice.

In response, Prime Minister Karam referred to issues related to the security situation. The prime minister said that he was aware of the rumors circulated by those who did not like to see the government succeed in its efforts because they were benefiting from the chaos and confusion. Karam strongly rejected the view that the security plan was only a temporary cease-fire. He said

that the government was determined to extend the security plan to cover all of Lebanon and every region on a stage by stage basis.

Karami said that a study should be carried out on the militias and the militia mentality, and he called for revived concern for the economy and for the social and living conditions of the public.

The prime minister stressed that the sectarian balance of the Army would be restored and that Army units would ultimately be deployed in all parts of the country.

The prime minister also stressed the importance of the role of the information media.

During the day, the prime minister met with the Head of the Central Inspection Authority Hasan Rif'at and Brigadier Sami Shaykhah.

Deputies' Reaction to Liaison Office Decision

NC201336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
20 Jul 84

[Text] There has been successive reaction by members of the Chamber of Deputies to the government's decision to withdraw the liaison officers from the Israeli Liaison Office in Ad-Dubiyah. For the second successive day the deputies praised the government's step and regarded it as the beginning of a Lebanese stance leading to the liberation of the south, western Al-Biq'a, and Rashayya.

Skaf, Greek Envoy Review Cyprus Situation

NC201613 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT
20 Jul 84

[Text] Joseph Skaf, minister of information and acting minister of the interior, today reviewed with the Greek ambassador the general situation in Cyprus in view of the fact that Lebanon and the island of Cyprus are littoral states of the Mediterranean.

Minister Skaf later met with the Chilean ambassador to discuss bilateral relations and conditions of the Lebanese community in Chile.

Al-Huss on Gaps in Security Plan Implementation

NC201445 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT
20 Jul 84

[Text] Education and Labor Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today expressed hope that gaps in the implementation of the security plan in the Greater Beirut area would be closed. Minister al-Huss said that consistency in the implementation of the security plan required the reopening of the Sodeco and Fu'ad Shihab crossings, the closure of the illegally operated fifth basin of Beirut port, and the restructuring of Army brigades to eliminate the concept of eastern and western brigades. Minister al-Huss said that there was general satisfaction with what had been accomplished, but there were also fears that a failure to follow through with other measures could lead to future problems.

He stressed the importance of the unity of the capital and the elimination of all illegal practices in the Greater Beirut area as a prelude to the extension of security to other parts of the country.

Meets With Protesting Students

NC201434 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT
20 Jul 84

[Text] Security forces broke up a students demonstration near the UNESCO complex at noon today when some of the students went on a rampage and tried to resort to violence. The demonstration was originally staged by students who were protesting against the continuation of the first baccalaureate.

The students demanded that the first baccalaureate should be cancelled, and a delegation was allowed to meet Education Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, who tried to persuade the students to adopt positive methods. When the delegation emerged, the students became violent and security forces tackled them with the help of a delegation from the Amal Movement Education Office.

Meanwhile, Minister al-Huss responded to criticism by Deputy Edward Hunayn today by pointing out that there were going to be two rounds of examinations as was the case in previous years. He also noted that the cancellation of some courses from the final exams was also adopted in 1982, but Deputy Hunayn did not complain at that time.

AR-RA'Y Interviews Defense Minister 'Usayran

JN211615 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 21 JUL 84 p 20

[Interview with 'Adin 'Usayran, minister of national defense and agriculture, by AR-RA'Y correspondent Amin Mustafa in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Amin Mustafa] How do you evaluate the current security situation? Is what is taking place a step forward on the 1,000 mile course or are there still some obstacles which hamper implementation?

['Adil 'Usayran] The present security situation is very good. We hope it will continue like this. The only disturbance during the past 2 days has been the issue of the kidnapped. However, the families of the kidnapped have admitted that it is impossible to return to the disturbances which used to prevail in the past.

[Mustafa] How do you view the military establishment? Are you satisfied with what is taking place within its ranks?

['Usayran] The situation is good, and the military establishment is now united. It has become a strike force and one can no longer have any fears for Lebanon in regard to its enemies. In the wake of the accord reached between Syria and Lebanon, and among the Lebanese themselves, there is no longer any fear over Lebanon. Partitioning is not a solution that is being discussed and the cantons are unacceptable. The only thing that remains is Lebanon's unity, which is the aspiration of all Lebanese.

[Mustafa] Israel seeks to impose a direct dialogue on the Lebanese Government concerning the issue of withdrawals. It continues to reject the interference of a third party, particularly in the wake of the collapse of the 17 May agreement. What is your stand on this issue?

['Usayran] The Lebanese Government is interested in the Israelis' withdrawal from Lebanon and it will resort to all means to achieve this.

[Mustafa] We recently heard that the USSR is ready to stand at Lebanon's side to help it settle its crisis by offering assistance to enable it to stand on its feet and confront the dangers. What results have the dialogue achieved so far in this respect?

['Usayran] This offer was made and we welcomed it. We sent someone from our part to the USSR Embassy to offer our thanks for these feelings. We will pursue the issue until we obtain assistance similar to that received by Syria.

The USSR will not be less generous to us than it has been to Syria. This also will reduce Zionist pressure on Lebanon.

[Mustafa] Do you expect a Syrian-Israeli war, particularly after the series of clashes in Al-Biq'a and the escalation of threats and statements on this subject?

['Usayran] The Syrian-Israeli war will not take place because the two parties do not want it. In the past, the United States supported Israel with all its capabilities.

As for now, while the United States continues to be with Israel, the USSR supports the second party, threatening Israel that if it attacks Syria the reply will be stronger than U.S. assistance to Israel.

YAR Ambassador Arrives, Makes Statement

NC201645 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT
20 Jul 84

[Text] YAR Ambassador to Lebanon Ahmad Muhammad al-Mutawakkil arrived in Beirut today. He expressed the satisfaction of his government over the current political security steps taken at the national salvation level. In a statement to our correspondent at the airport, Darwish 'Ammar, the ambassador said:

[Begin recording][Al-Mutawakkil] My arrival in Beirut was not specifically set for today, as I could have come earlier. However, my travel having been expedited by officials in San'a' amounts to blessing the steps taken by our Lebanese brothers for restoring peace.

['Ammar] Is there a specific role or initiative which the YAR might carry out in this respect to help Lebanon?

[Al-Mutawakkil] As you know, the YAR political leadership, represented in Brother President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, has been interested in the Lebanese question and has always been with Lebanon. This interest continues. [end recording]

Libya To Buy Agricultural Products, Offers Aid

NC221519 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Text] Libya has agreed to buy Lebanese agricultural products. The agreement is regarded as one of the positive results of At-Turayki's visit to Beirut. According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, the Libyan Government has also decided to offer financial aid to Lebanon to help it face the difficult conditions through which it is passing.

Forces Deny Setting Up Roadblocks, Violations

NC201350 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English
1330 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] An official source in the Lebanese Forces denied reports carried by some information media about the Lebanese Forces putting up roadblocks and violating the cease-fire in Greater Beirut. The source said that these reports were not true and that the Lebanese Forces were carefully respecting all the measures of the security plan.

Fadi Afram Views Issue of Mountain Christians

NC212027 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces, through their commander Fadi Afram, have rejected all attempts to settle the mountain inhabitants outside their land. They have also rejected the notion that the mountain should be Druze, just as they had previously rejected that it should be Christian.

Speaking at a ceremony held by the Christians of the mountain on the occasion of St Ilyas holiday this evening, and attended by leaders of the Phalangist and Liberal parties and the Lebanese Forces, as well as by Joseph al-Hashim and Tanyus Saba, heads of the [Phalangist regional commands] in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh, Dr Jean Ghanim, deputy head of the Phalangist [command] in B'abda, and a throng of prominent figures and citizens, Fadi Afram said: We want to preserve the Christian identity of the Christian land. The mountain people refuse to return to some of their villages and not to others just because the other villages constitute a geographic or strategic obstacle to the Druze tide.

French Media Given List of Kidnapped Persons

NC212042 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1945 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces' office in Paris has distributed to the French information media a list containing the names of 1,242 Christians kidnapped by the men of Junblatt, the Amal Movement, and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party in the years from 1982 to 1984.

Meanwhile, sources of the Lebanese Forces in Paris have uncovered an agreement between the French Government and the Amal Movement. The agreement stipulates that the French president intercede with his Lebanese counterpart to give Birri a

more than usual ministerial portfolio and to give a license for an Amal radio in Paris — all this is in return for the protection of French interests in West Beirut and for France to secure a developmental role in Lebanon.

PSP's Junblatt, SSNP's Ra'd Meet 20 Jul

NC210559 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
to Lebanon 0430 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt received Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] leader In'am Ra'd yesterday. They discussed the current situation in general and the situation in Al-Kurah in particular.

After the meeting, In'am Ra'd said: I visited my dear friend, Walid Junblatt, at the head of a SSNP delegation. We discussed Lebanese affairs. Our viewpoints were identical and we expressed our appreciation for his statement to *AL-MAJALLAH* magazine. We underline the relations of friendship and alliance with the PSP under Walid Junblatt.

Junblatt Leaves for Talks With Khaddam

NC221523 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has held two meetings with Lebanese Deputies Nazim al-Qadiri and 'Ali al-Khalil.

Minister Walid Junblatt has left for Damascus for talks with Khaddam, who earlier met with Minister Nabih Birri.

Junblatt on Security Plan, Ties With Syria

JN211717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] London — Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, has praised the efforts being exerted by Syria to solve the Lebanese crisis. In an interview published today in the London-based Arabic magazine *AL-MAJALLAH*, Junblatt demanded that relations between Syria and Lebanon must be strategic.

Junblatt hailed the Lebanese national resistance and pointed out that the success of the security plan depends on considering past mistakes, as when the Lebanese Army tried to apply the security plan to Beirut only.

Junblatt called on the new command of this Army to learn from past mistakes so as to ensure the success of the current plan.

Nabih Birri on South Lebanon, Other Issues

GF221111 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jul (WKAH) — Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon, has affirmed that the Lebanese Government will complete the security plan which was implemented in

Beirut with another plan which opens a way to the occupied south and restores it to Lebanon through political or other means.

In an interview with the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published in Abu Dhabi today, he said that the Cabinet and the Lebanese Army will move in light of this plan to liberate the south and western Al-Biqā' and to restore Lebanon's unity through its southern region and Al-Biqā'.

He said that the designed method of liberation to fight the Israeli enemy if it refuses to withdraw and that it should be dealt with forcibly if it continues to be stubborn and rejects the UN resolutions.

Answering a question about the Lebanese Army's inability to confront Israel, Mr Birri said that the popular upsurge of the people of the south against the Zionist occupation forces, in addition to the blows inflicted against those forces by Lebanese resistance fighters, proved to the world that the Israeli soldier is made of paper. The proof of that is the confused psychological situation of Zionist soldiers in the south, who are refusing to stay in Lebanon for fear of death.

He pointed out that the Lebanese Army has two brigades ready to head for the south, in addition to the UN forces in case enemy forces withdraw partially from there. He affirmed that Lebanon is responsible for the security of the south and also the security of Beirut.

Mr Birri rejected the idea that Lebanon is responsible for the security of Galilee and the northern borders of occupied Palestine, and said: This is the responsibility of Israel alone, which used to justify itself that it was being threatened by the Palestinians, who are not there anymore.

He said that his ministry is trying to activate the ministries of the state to establish projects in southern Lebanon so that its people can continue to be steadfast and to compensate them for the great damages resulting from the Zionist occupation.

He affirmed that he will stand against all attempts to divide Lebanon, whether that division has federal, decentralized confederal, or other forms.

Birri Discusses Talks With Syrian Officials

NC221656 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] After his meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' in Damascus today, Minister Nabih Birri said his talks in the Syrian capital dealt with the steps that should be taken in Lebanon to consolidate security and to restore confidence in the security plan, the implementation of which began over 2 weeks ago.

Minister Birri added that he briefed Syrian officials on his talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow, as well as on the Soviet Government's views on the situation in southern Lebanon and the need for Israel's withdrawal and abidance by UN resolutions.

Asked about the attack on the Soviet Embassy in Beirut, Minister Birri said that this incident is suspicious and that nobody has any interest in perpetrating such incidents other than the real enemy, who seeks to set off the situation, especially in West Beirut.

Amal's Haydar on Israeli Practices in South

NC211633 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Engineer Colonel 'Akif Haydar, head of the Amal Movement Political Bureau, held a news conference at the movement's headquarters today during which he dealt with current developments, particularly Israeli practices in the south and the expulsion of Judge Ulema Muhammad Hasan al-Amin. He said: Yesterday Israel resorted to a new method in its foolish actions against our resistance. Israel has expelled brother scholar His Eminence Muhammad Hasan al-Amin after resorting to detentions which included our scholars and fighters. The only answer to that was the exacerbation of the resistance. Israel then resorted to assassinations as a more effective method and the only answer to that was the extension of the resistance. Israel today resorts to expulsions in order to suppress the pioneering roles by continuously attacking the citizens' dignity and entity.

Greetings to those who have been expelled and to those who are holding their positions.

Amal Rejects Israeli Opposition Accusations

NC201453 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Amal Movement today issued a strong statement rejecting accusations by Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres that the Shi'ites were terrorists. The statement said that this statement revealed the true intentions of the movement [as heard] towards the people, the land, and the water of the south. Amal Movement said that the real terrorists were those who killed innocent victims, innocent civilians, destroyed homes, and detained thousands of men in concentration camps.

Amal Movement urged the people of the south to stand firm and foil every attempt to split their ranks. It accused Israel of trying to create divisions.

The statement also expressed satisfaction with the current visit of Minister Birri to the Soviet Union and called for further efforts to secure the reopening of the coastal highway linking Beirut with the south.

VOL Reports on Security Situation in Tripoli

NC212057 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The security situation in Tripoli erupted at 2230 tonight. For the past 45 minutes, clashes have been raging between the Islamic Unification Movement and the Red Knights in which various types of weapons are being used.

2 Persons Wounded

*NC221146 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT
22 Jul 84*

[Text] Clashes have resumed in Tripoli between the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party following a shelling between the sides last night. While there have been no exact estimates of casualties, reports said two persons were wounded by sniper fire a short while ago.

Sniping in Mountain, Tension in Tripoli Reported

*NC221351 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English
1330 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Latest reports from the mountain spoke of sniping continuing against Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb. Earlier today, sniping had developed into exchanges of fire with the use of light and medium weapons.

In the north, acute tension prevails in the city of Tripoli, where sporadic sniper fire continues. Armed elements of the Sunnite Moslem Unification Movement and 'Alawites are reported to be deployed in the streets.

Israelis' Permits To Move Freely To Be Withdrawn

*NC221525 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT
22 Jul 84*

[Text] A ministerial source has been quoted as saying the Lebanese authorities have decided to withdraw the permits given to members of the Israeli Liaison Office which allow them to move freely within Greater Beirut. The source said this step is more effective than the withdrawal of the Lebanese Military Committee. The source expects Israel to close the office within 24 hours.

RFL on Syrian Reinforcements in Al-Biqā'

*NC201654 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqā' indicate that a Syrian tank column has taken up positions in the Al-Yammunah hills. Meanwhile, in Shtawrah today, vehicles escorted by Syrian forces were seen transporting Soviet experts.

Other reports from Al-Biqā' say that Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha] gunmen have set up a new center near Ba'labakk. The center is manned by 100 gunmen and is equipped with light- and medium-caliber machine guns, two rocket launchers, two 106-mm artillery pieces, and a number of various types of mortars.

Syrian Brigadier General Killed in Al-Biqā'

*NC210530 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0445 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] A Syrian brigadier general's body was found in his office in the town of [name indistinct] in the Al-Biqā'. The only available information on the incident is that he was shot in the head by a 7-mm firearm.

Al-Asad Reportedly Inspects Forces in Al-Biqā'

*NC221532 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT
22 Jul 84*

[Text] The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* reports that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has inspected the Syrian forces in Al-Biqā' and has emphasized the need for readiness to confront the Israeli forces.

Foreign Minister, USSR Counterpart Hail Relations*JN211641 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jul (SANA) — On the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Syria today congratulated the Soviet Union and expressed the hope that these relations will develop in the interest of the two friendly countries and peoples. In a message to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko on this occasion, the Syrian Foreign Ministry said today that the traditional relations between our two countries are not restricted to only diplomatic relations, but have also developed in the various fields during the past years. The friendship and cooperation treaty, which was signed in 1980, was a prominent event in the history of our relations and factor in strengthening the concept of real friendship and mutual respect between the two countries.

The message also emphasized that in light of the recent developments in the region, experience has proved the effectiveness and usefulness of Syrian-Soviet friendship relations and their ability to grow steadily as a result of their strong foundation used to confront the imperialist and Zionist forces and to foil their plans aimed at spreading hegemony over the region.

The message also said: We in Syria highly appreciate the friendly Soviet support for us in our just struggle to liberate the occupied Arab land and regain the Arabs' usurped rights. It continued: We reiterate Syria's determination under President Hafiz al-Asad to further develop and deepen friendship and cooperation relations in the interest of our two countries and peoples and the issue of freedom and world peace.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' also received a similar congratulatory message from the Soviet Foreign Ministry which asserted that bilateral relations made progress over the last 40 years in the interest of the Soviet Union and Syria in particular and in the interest of the Arab people in general. The message also said: The signing of the friendship and cooperation treaty constituted an important event that raised relations between the two countries to a high level and characterized them with real friendship. The Soviet Foreign Ministry also expressed its confidence that the continuation of fruitful cooperation between the two countries will serve the two friendly peoples' interests and will constitute a guarantee for succeeding in bringing about a just and strong peace in the Middle East.

USSR Ambassador Speech*JN211932 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] On the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Syria and the Soviet Union, USSR Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin delivered a speech in which he said:

O Syrian friends, O comrades: I am pleased to address you over the Syrian Arab television on the occasion of a major event in the history of Soviet-Syrian relations; namely, the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Syria. Forty years is a long period in history. During that period we were convinced of the strength and firmness of the

USSR-Syrian friendship and cooperation relations. During the past 40 years, Soviet-Syrian relations were based on equality and mutual interest. These relations stem from the unity of our aims and our duties to struggle against imperialism from principles of equality, from respect for sovereignty, and from noninterference in each others' domestic affairs.

The Soviet Union and Syria are working hand in hand as sincere friends and real allies who are struggling to achieve detente, curb the arms race, and reach a just and firm peace in the Middle East. We do not exaggerate when we say that the Soviet people and all progressive people view Syria as a symbol of the Arabs' steadfastness in their just struggle against the U.S.-Israeli plans to impose certain systems on the Arab nation against its interests, spread U.S. hegemony, entrench the occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights and other Arab lands, and deprive the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent national state.

The Soviet people are aware that the Syrian people under President Hafiz al-Asad are determined to continue their firm position to repulse the U.S.-Israeli aggression and to continue to develop friendship and cooperation relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries. Soviet-Syrian cooperation is steadily developing in all the political, economic, defensive, scientific, cultural, and medical fields. Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's official and cordial visit to the Soviet Union in October 1980, during which the friendship and cooperation treaty was signed, was an important phase in strengthening relations between our two countries. Four years have passed since the signing of the treaty, and we can confirm that the treaty has proved its firmness and effectiveness under the most complicated circumstances of our two countries.

Finally, I would like to express in the name of the Soviet people and on behalf of their leaders and of Konstantin Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and CPSU Central Committee general secretary, our confidence that Soviet-Syrian relations, which are based on the strong foundation of the friendship and cooperation treaty, will develop and deepen steadily in the interest of our two countries, of world security, and of peace in the Middle East.

IZVESTIYA Cited on Cooperation*JN210902 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] Moscow — The Soviet newspaper *IZVESTIYA* yesterday praised Soviet-Syrian relations which are based on equality and mutual respect, as well as Syria's role in confronting the continuous Israeli aggression and the imperialist policy of domination and expansion in the Middle East.

In an article on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of relations between Syria and the USSR, the paper said that these relations, which have been developed over the past 40 years and which have assumed a stable nature that is beneficial to both sides, are now an important factor in effectively confronting the imperialist policy of domination and expansion in the region. The paper said that the USSR highly values Syria's constructive role

in establishing firm peace in the Middle East, and its active efforts to guarantee the unity of the Arab states. The paper also valued its steadfastness against the continuous Israeli enemy aggression and against the attempts at effecting separate deals with the aggressors.

IZVESTIYA said that Syria is proceeding on the path of this struggle, and is assuming the major portion of the burden of the Arab confrontation of Israel's expansion. It added that the USSR's firm support for Syria's stand helps it to successfully resist blackmail and the military pressures that are being directed against it in the attempts to deviate it from its anti-imperialist trend. The paper also said that one of the main fields of cooperation between Syria and the USSR is the struggle to find a comprehensive, just settlement in the Middle East and to remove the hotbed of tension which the ruling Israeli circles have established with U.S. encouragement and support. The paper pointed out that the two friendly countries have identical views both on a Middle East settlement and on the forces that oppose such a settlement. *IZVESTIYA* praised the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR, and said that this treaty is assuming greater importance in the present circumstances of conflagration in the world situation.

Electricity Agreement Signed With Soviet Union

JN211200 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jul (SANA) — A protocol was signed at the Ministry of Electricity today by Syria and the USSR according to which the Soviet (?Techno Brum Export) company will design and import equipment for the Widyan ar-Rabi' electricity station that has a capacity of 400 megawatts. This protocol was concluded on the occasion of celebrating the 40th anniversary of Syria and the USSR establishing diplomatic relations. The protocol was signed on the Syrian side by Minister of Electricity Kamil Baba, and on the Soviet side by the economic counselor of the USSR Embassy in Damascus.

Al-Asad Receives Arab League's Klibi

JN211817 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] At 1800 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'. During the meeting, the talks revolved around the situation in the region and issues concerning the Arab League and its organizations and bodies.

Khaddam, Al-Kasm Receive Klibi

JN221228 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] At 1100 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The talks dealt with the current Arab situation.

At 1000 this morning, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm

received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The talks dealt with various issues pertaining to the Arab world and current developments in the region.

Vice President Khaddam Receives Lebanon's Birri

JN212047 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1730 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Nabih Birri, Amal Movement leader and minister of justice, water resources, and southern Lebanon. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the results of Birri's visit to Moscow, the situation in Lebanon, and the future steps of the peaceful march.

Confers With Birri, Junblatt

JN221814 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] At 1800 today Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Nabih Birri, Amal Movement leader and minister of justice, water resources, and southern Lebanon; and Walid Junblatt, Progressive Socialist Party leader and minister of tourism and public works in Lebanon. During the meeting, they discussed the situation in the Lebanese arena and the efforts being exerted to continue the peaceful march in fraternal Lebanon.

Foreign Minister Receives Birri

JN221541 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' today received Nabih Birri, Amal Movement leader and minister of justice, water resources, and southern Lebanon. The talks during the meeting revolved around the latest developments in the Arab arena and the results of Birri's recent visit to Moscow.

Vice President Khaddam Receives Lebanese Deputies

JN221555 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1000 today Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Lebanese Deputy Dr 'Ali al-Khalil. At 1330 today Khaddam also received Lebanese Deputy Nazim al-Qadiri. They discussed the Lebanese situation during both meetings.

U.S. Regrets Closure of Israeli Liaison Office

JN210828 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Beirut — Lebanese circles have affirmed that the second phase of the security plan, which includes the mountain areas, has been generally outlined and that it is now awaiting implementation by the political leadership.

Meanwhile, the United States has expressed regret at the closure of the Israeli liaison office in Lebanon. It alleged that this office was a useful form of contact between the two sides. Citing Alan Romberg, U.S. State Department spokesman, AFP says that the United States has not so far received a confirmation of the Lebanese Government's decision to permanently close that office.

Beirut reports say that joint patrols are roaming Beirut to prevent any disturbances that the Zionist enemy agent may implement.

Jordanian Parliamentary Delegation Departs Damascus

JN201846 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The Jordanian parliamentary delegation headed by 'Akif al-Fayiz left Damascus this morning after participating in the Arab parliament speakers' meeting. They were seen off at Damascus International Airport by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi; 'Abd ar-Rahman Burawi, secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union; the Jordanian charge d'affaires; the staff of the Jordanian Embassy in Damascus; and a number of People's Assembly members.

Al-Fayiz made a predeparture statement in which he expressed pleasure at visiting Syria and meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad. He also praised the results of the Arab parliamentary meeting in Damascus and Syria's pan-Arab role.

Jordanian Nationalists on 'Arafat Visit

JN211742 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — The parties and forces of the Jordanian National Movement [al-harakah al-wataniyah al-urduniyah] have issued a statement on 'Arafat's last visit to Jordan and suspect agreement with the Jordanian regime. Speaking in the name of the Jordanian National Movement's parties and forces, and the Palestinian national forces and groups represented by the National Alliance, the provisional leadership of the Palestinian Communist Party, and the secretariat of the Palestinian Liberation Front, these parties and forces urged the struggling Palestinian national groups and forces to continue to firmly and seriously confront the deviation of the 'Arafat leadership.

The statement calls for the Palestinian and Jordanian national forces and organizations that are operating in the Jordanian arena to unite in their common struggle to foil the conspiratorial plan that is being hatched by the Jordanian regime with 'Arafat's cooperation. This plan, the statement says, does not only threaten the liquidation of the Palestine question and strengthen the entrenchment of the Zionist occupation of all of the Palestinian territory, but is also an extension of the Zionist hegemony to Jordan itself.

The statement hails the alliance among Syria, the Lebanese national forces, and the struggling forces in the Palestinian revolution which, it says, has succeeded in foiling the imperialist-Zionist plan in Lebanon by the abrogation of the 17 May

agreement, the withdrawal of the NATO forces, the formation of the national unity government, and the continued heroic struggle to liberate the south from the yoke of Zionist occupation.

The statement hails Syria's steadfast stands, affirming that Syria has been, and will continue to be, the base of Arab confrontation against imperialist-Zionist plans. It says that the Jordanian National Movement can foil the plan which is being hatched by the imperialists and Zionists through cooperation with the Jordanian regime and the 'Arafat leadership against the Palestinian and Jordanian people and the Arab national liberation movement.

Industry Minister Qaddur Departs for GDR

JN221456 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 22 Jul (SANA) — Minister of Industry Mahmud Qaddur left Damascus today for the GDR on an official visit at the invitation of the GDR deputy chairman. During this visit, the minister of industry will hold talks aimed at developing industrial cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Al-Asad Cables Jablonski on Polish National Day

JN211718 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a congratulatory cable to President Henryk Jablonski on the occasion of Poland's national day. In this cable, the president extended in his name and on behalf of the Syrian people warmest congratulations and best wishes to President Jablonski and the friendly Polish people. He also expressed confidence that the ties of friendship and cooperation will continue to develop between the two countries.

Al-Asad Receives Message From Bendjedid

JN221254 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has received a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with some of the region's issues. The message was conveyed by Salih Boujoumaa, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

Al-Asad Receives Iraqi Communists' Cable

JN211844 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jul (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable from the plenary ordinary meeting of the Iraqi Communist Party's [ICP] Central Committee. In the cable, the ICP voiced its support for Syria and its confidence in its victory over the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary aggression and the designs of the imperialist-reactionary-factional onslaught on fraternal Lebanon. The following is the text of the cable:

In the name of the Iraqi communists and their friends, we would like to greet you and wish you continued good health and success

in carrying out fraternal Syria's great tasks to confront and defeat the imperialist-reactionary-Zionist aggression, to pursue valiant struggle against plots and conspiracies, and to deter the designs of the imperialist, reactionary and factional forces against fraternal Lebanon.

During our meeting, we have appreciated the great role of Syria, its brave people, its struggler progressive forces, its national front, and valiant Army in the Arab nation's pan-Arab struggle for liberation. On the occasion of our plenary ordinary meeting of our Central Committee, we reiterate our support for fraternal Syria, which is strongly defending its sovereignty and the unity of its people, and express our firm confidence in the victory of Syria and all the Arab nationalist liberation movements which are supported by the world's progressive forces; foremost being the USSR, the loyal friend.

We would like to express our appreciation for Syria's honorable stands toward the struggle of our Iraqi people and their national and progressive forces to topple the ruling dictator regime in Iraq and establish the nationalist-democratic coalition regime that will bring Iraq back to its normal position in the Arab national liberation movement and entrench the relations of brotherhood and solidarity with struggler fraternal Syria.

Ba'th Party Delegation Leaves for Libya

JN221050 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 22 Jul (SANA) — An Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation headed by Ahmad Qabalan, member of the Party's Central Committee and secretary of the Party's Damascus rural areas branch, left Damascus for Tripoli this morning. The delegation will attend the political seminar which will be held by the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference to mark the 23 July revolution anniversary.

The delegation will also participate in the meetings of the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference, whose third session for this year will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The delegation of the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference also left for Tripoli aboard the same plane following a 1-week visit to Syria during which they met with members of the Arab People's Conference who are present in Damascus.

Al-Ahmar, Ba'th Delegation Leave for PDRY

JN201158 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, left Damascus this morning heading a party delegation for the PDRY at the invitation of the YSP. Al-Ahmar was seen off by Ba'th National Command members; Damascus branch command members; the Damascus governor; a number of full members from the National Command and the Damascus branch; and 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, PDRY ambassador in Damascus.

Foreign Minister Receives PNC Speaker Al-Fahum

JN220938 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 22 Jul (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' received PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum this morning. The discussions dealt with the current political situation in the Palestinian arena.

AL-QABAS on Al-Asad's Visit to Al-Biq'a'

GF221554 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Jul 84 pp 1, 17

[Report by political editor]

[Excerpts] The Syrian officers and soldiers in the Lebanese area of western Al-Biq'a', on the contact lines with Israeli forces, were surprised to see President Hafiz al-Asad among them last week dressed in a military uniform. Well-informed sources told *AL-QABAS* that this was first tour of this kind in the Lebanese territory and he was only a few hundred yards from the forward Israeli positions. This visit came after his tour of the Golan front during which he spent a few hours with the troops there. Of course, the Syrian president was not as robust as he was before, because of his deteriorating health, but he was very optimistic when he spoke with the troops. When we asked the sources on whether this initiative had something to do with the internal situation, they said the situation was now totally harmonious and calm. President al-Asad was very frank about this issue when he noted that there were parties which recently tried to fabricate rumors and export them outside Syria, but things are going well. He noted that the reason behind such rumors was to create confusion in relations among the national forces in the country and in the foreign relations with friendly countries, and if this were to take place, Israel would then be able to deal its military blow, the strategy for which had been completed, and Syria knew the codename of this operation. However, two things made the Israelis hesitate to set the zero hour for this blow. They were:

1. The internal forces understood the critical circumstances and thus, they quickly dealt with the problems. When the maneuvering ended, it was clear that President al-Asad was holding all the Syrian forces in his grip and there was no time to talk about any form of conflicts among certain personalities or forces. No doubt this dynamic coherence of the internal front positively affected Syria's foreign relations since commitments were honored, although some people said that these commitments had been affected.

2. The Soviet Union asserted that it would directly intervene in the event Syria was subjected to any Israeli aggression. Notes to this effect were sent to Washington and occupied Jerusalem and Damascus was informed of the recent meeting which was held between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Ambassador to Washington Anatoliy Dobrynin. It was clear that the Soviets made recent preparations in total secrecy to directly intervene quickly if Syria were subjected to aggression.

Syrian forces confirmed that these arrangements have been changed, but they refrained from giving any details although they noted that the recent visit to Vienna by General Mustafa Talas was not for the purpose of tourism, but was to sign a

contract with the Austrian Government to purchase a type of advanced military equipment. In this regard, it should be noted that Austria has very advanced radar systems, some of which Syria possesses. Austria also has advanced infrared equipment, radar blurring systems, equipment to counter these equipment, and information analysis computers.

President al-Asad told troops whom he met that there is no place for the "calm times", because the Israelis might carry out an operation at any time.

ATH-THAWRAH on Exploiting U.S., Israeli Polls

PM230600 Damascus ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 11 Jul 84 p 1

[Muhammad Khayr al-Wadi editorial: "The Other Aspect of the U.S. and Israeli Elections"]

[Text] Without any introductions, we must state right away that it is wrong to think that the U.S. and Israeli election results could lead to a fundamental and positive change in the attitudes of Washington and Tel Aviv to the so-called Middle East crisis, for two reasons. The first is that U.S. policy is determined by well established institutions which have their own traditions and expertise, regardless of whether the man in the White House is a Democrat or a Republican, particularly since the difference between the two parties is so minimal. The second reason is that the assumed alternative to the Likud coalition, namely the Labor Party, is the party which laid the theoretical and practical foundations of Israel's aggressive policy. It is therefore quite dangerous to bank on these elections and await their results before taking the next step or deciding on a course of action.

This certainly does not mean that we should underestimate the importance of these elections as political events, but their importance vis-a-vis the Middle East lies in the elections themselves, not in their results. That is what matters. The elections consume a major part of official efforts, both in Washington and Tel Aviv. That is why there is currently a lull and a lack of initiative in the U.S. and Israeli foreign policies.

To put it more clearly, the two administrations in Washington and Tel Aviv are compelled to focus most of their attention on the elections. This means less pressure on the region, with attempts to freeze the situation until after the elections. This is an opportunity which should be exploited to the maximum to strengthen the positions of confrontation with the United States, Israel, and their agents and to improve the conditions for conflict with them and get rid of everything which impedes, obstructs, or burdens the struggle against imperialism and Zionism. Accordingly, as far as Lebanon is concerned, it is of vital importance to expedite the Lebanese national detente process and speed up the implementation of what has already been agreed in the political and security fields. National reconciliation must become a practical reality, and the features of the new Lebanon must be drawn on the ground. Lebanon is now in a race against time. Waiting, delay, and inaction are not in that country's interest.

The semiparalysis of U.S. foreign policy should be an incentive to serious and immediate work for the revival of Arab solidarity

on its well known struggle basis and for the removal of all the U.S. and Israeli mines from the path of this solidarity, which should be used as a weapon in the Arab national battles. Accomplishing this noble pan-Arab mission would mean victory for the Arab nation because it would strengthen the nation and reinforce one of its most important strategic weapons.

The U.S. and Israeli preoccupation with domestic elections is a good opportunity for the revival of the national steadfastness and confrontation front and for digging the American shrapnel out of the parties in that front, especially the Palestinian side, which is now suffering serious fragmentation that must be remedied. Events have proved the value and effectiveness of that front in combating the lackey and capitulationist trend in the Arab homeland.

The quiescence which now characterizes the U.S. and Israeli policies in no way means that they have lost their vitality and abilities or that they are no longer capable of harming and undermining Arab national causes. It is the calm that precedes the storm. The storm is undoubtedly coming after the election phase, and it will come in various shapes. This anticipated explosion could even be stronger, more violent, and more varied than in the past.

That is why we must prepare ourselves well for it. We must exploit the relative easing of U.S.-Israeli pressures by reinforcing all the Arab national weapons, boosting the spirit of resistance and combat, and doing everything necessary to protect the achievements made so far and prevent the hands of the clock from being turned back.

The United States will not give up. It will not give up easily. It is preparing itself for some action more serious than ever before, perhaps including new parties in and outside the region. It could use various methods different from its customary plotting methods. Facing this requires rearrangement of the national and pan-Arab fronts, which must be purged of all the parasites who exhaust their resistance and steadfastness capabilities. The foundations of the house must be strong enough to withstand and break the coming imperialist and Zionist winds and prevent them from achieving their aggressive, expansionist, and criminal objectives.

Cabinet Discusses Future of Liaison Office*TA220856 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0842 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Here is an update from the weekly Cabinet session: The Cabinet has empowered the prime minister and the defense minister to make a decision concerning the future of the Israeli representation at Ad-Dubayyah. This is reported by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

In today's session, the Cabinet heard a review of the situation in Lebanon presented by the chief of IDF intelligence and by the coordinator of activities in Lebanon. Our correspondent adds that a reduced forum composed of the defense minister, heads of the intelligence community, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, the coordinator of activities in Lebanon, and the head of the representation at Ad-Dubayyah is currently meeting at the prime minister's office.

At the end of the Cabinet session, Cabinet Secretary Mikha'el Nir expressed his assessment that a decision on the future of the Israeli representation at Ad-Dubayyah would not be made today.

'No Choice' But To Close*TA220416 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Jerusalem says Israel has no choice other than to close down its representation office in Beirut. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer notes that Lebanon has notified Israel in writing that it will remove its soldiers from the office. The Cabinet will discuss Lebanon's move today.

Closure Postponed for Election*TA230612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 23 Jul 84*

[Text] Lebanese Government representatives have informed Israeli representatives that they will evacuate their guards and liaison people from the Israeli representation only after the Israeli elections. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer learned that in talks between representatives of the two countries the possibility was raised that this could affect the results of the elections — therefore the Lebanese responded to the request to carry out the evacuation only after the elections.

Zaq Comments on Karami's Soviet Strategy*TA231043 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Jul 84 p 12*

[Moshe Zaq Commentary: "Exposed in Beirut"]

[Text] Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami did not accept the invitation of the Soviet ambassador in Beirut, Aleksandr Soldatov, and did not make an official visit to Moscow.

Two ministers in his Cabinet, Shi'ite leader Nabih Birri and Druze leader Walid Junblatt, whose militias indirectly received (through Syria and Libya) Soviet weapons during the civil war, traveled to Moscow. Rashid Karami, however, preferred to use

the Soviet offer of military aid in order to extort U.S. economic aid that was frozen when Lebanon surrendered to Syria's dictates.

The aid in question is \$78 million out of a total of \$150 million allocated by the U.S. Congress; \$40 million of that has already been given as aid to Grenada.

The Syrian Government encouraged Rashid Karami to accept the Soviet invitation; but he preferred to wait and see, first, in order not to lose the chance of receiving U.S. aid, and second, in order to leave an option open for talks with the Americans, who so far firmly refuse to mediate between Lebanon and Israel over a substitute for the 17 May accord.

The Lebanese prime minister finally understood that even the powerful Syria, which received an abundance of Soviet weapons, cannot attain its political objectives without U.S. support. All the more so weak Lebanon: It will not be able to obtain an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon without U.S. political support. Therefore, at this time particularly, he pushed for creating two centers of pressure on the United States:

1. The threat of Soviet military aid to Lebanon, which is meant to scare the United States.
2. Increasing tension with Israel by closing down the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubayyah.

The Lebanese Government knew ahead of time that closing the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubayyah would make it difficult for Lebanese Army soldiers to visit their families in Lebanon, because they will have no possibility of asking for entrance permits to the territory held by Israel.

Merchants from Beirut who want to bring ships into Sidon's port will not be able to do so, because they will have no place to get entrance permits for Sidon, which is under IDF control.

Israel must not retaliate against the closing of the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubayyah. Its very closing will sever the connection between southern and northern Lebanon, and will end the administrative control exerted by the Beirut government in southern Lebanon with the permission of Israel.

The Lebanese Government knew all of this. In spite of this, it decided to expose the Israeli representation and make it a target for attacks by removing the Lebanese Army guards from the two-storey building. The Lebanese Government did this because it assumed that it would then have a basis on which to protest Israeli intransigence, as it were.

The Lebanese Government hoped that by these means it would be easier for it to recruit U.S. political support for the Lebanese Army's deployment in the south as well. This false assumption originates from the days before the Lebanese war: It is true that 7 years ago the Americans pressured Israel into removing Haddad's army in order to allow the Lebanese Army to deploy in the south also. Meanwhile, things have changed. There was a war in Lebanon and, with U.S. mediation, an agreement was

achieved between Israel and Lebanon, which the Lebanese abrogated under Syrian pressure, and the United States cannot deny an agreement to which it is a signatory.

Israel should not insist on leaving its representation in Ad-Dubayyah. This despite the fact that the "Lebanese Forces" (the Christians) are willing to put guards in the building of the representation.

If Israel wants to keep an official representation guarded by the "Lebanese Forces," then there are safer places than Ad-Dubayyah. A representation could be left in Juniyah, to where most of the Western diplomats who find life in Beirut difficult are moving. The Lebanese Forces, more than serving as protection for the Israeli representation, will be targets of shelling by the Muslim militias.

There was a purpose in maintaining the representation in Ad-Dubayyah, because the protection given it by the Lebanese Army symbolized the political ties between Israel and Lebanon.

Once the Lebanese Army unit is removed, the political meaning of the representation's existence in Ad-Dubayyah is removed. If there is a need to maintain links with Lebanese who seek Israel's friendship, there are many other ways to do this, and it is not necessary to have a building which could be a target for Muslim aggression.

The closing of the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubayyah does not signify the end to the political ties, which were developed over many years between Israel and Lebanon. On the contrary, the closing of the representation will make it imperative for the Lebanese Government to seek a new channel for talking with Israel.

With his own hands, the Lebanese prime minister threw away the key, Ad-Dubayyah, to southern Lebanon. Now he will not be able to ensure that citizens of his country are able to enter the territory held by Israel, unless he makes the effort to search, with Israel, for the key which he lost in Ad-Dubayyah, in the building of the Israeli representation, where Israeli representatives and Lebanese soldiers lived side by side.

Rashid Karami assumed that the difficulties resulting from the closing of the Israeli representation would help him win U.S. pressure on Israel. If the United States does not believe Karami's threat, that he is about to receive Soviet aid, perhaps it may still be able to bring Lebanon to create new ties with Israel in order to solve the problems created by the closing of the representation. These ties will also be, indirectly, the bridge for a dialogue between Israel and Syria.

This dialogue today seems far away, but it is possible that Syria, in pressuring the Karami government to shut down the representation in Ad-Dubayyah, tested the extent to which the United States support Israel. Out of the strong, something sweet can come. [Biblical allusion]

Anti-Soviet Clauses in Strategic Agreement Denied

TA211855 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem are denying a report published by *THE NEW YORK TIMES* that Israel agreed to include in the strategic cooperation agreement with the United States clauses aimed against the Soviet Union. *THE NEW YORK TIMES* claims that in talks last month in Jerusalem, Israel accepted the Reagan administration's call to note in the agreement that the object of the cooperation would be to deter the Soviet Union from acting in the Middle East. The newspaper claims that the Israeli agreement was against the better judgement of top security sources and top IDF officers. Our correspondent in Washington Elimelekh Ram adds from U.S. sources that the Soviet authorities have decided to close the gates of Jewish emigration in order to deter Israel from signing this agreement. To repeat, sources in Jerusalem are denying *THE NEW YORK TIMES* report.

Shamir Denies Report

TA220846 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Jul 84 pp 1, 15

[Report by Washington correspondent 'Oded Granot, Refa'el Mann and Ya'aqov Erez]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Defense Department yesterday apologized to Israel for the unprecedented leak of confidential information on the course of the strategic talks the two countries have been conducting in the framework of the joint political-military group.

MA'ARIV's correspondent in Washington has learned that this information, as quoted by *THE NEW YORK TIMES* last Friday, reveals the fundamental dispute which emerged between the sides during their secret talks on how to define their common enemy.

The MA'ARIV correspondent in Washington was told by authoritative sources that the allegation Israel had agreed that the Soviet Union is the main enemy is incorrect. These sources added: "If it transpires that the Americans insist on this definition there may be no agreement. We do not want to enter a confrontation with the Soviets."

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir last night denied the report alleging that Israel and the United States have signed a document that will ensure bilateral cooperation against Soviet aggression in the Middle East. Speaking to the MA'ARIV correspondent, the prime minister said: "No document whatsoever has been signed. The reports are totally inaccurate."

Mr Shamir added that the talks on strategic cooperation are still underway, and that is why Israel will not issue a detailed reaction to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* report. According to the agreement reached between the two countries in January when the contacts on strategic cooperation resumed, both countries would not publish the contents of the talks. The Foreign Ministry's spokesman yesterday abstained from reacting to the report.

Authoritative sources in Jerusalem last night noted that in the contacts with the United States, Israel has objected to specifically mentioning that the agreement on cooperation is directed against the Soviet Union. Israel has so far rejected U.S. requests on this issue, and has made it clear that it would prefer that no specific mention of the Soviets appear in the agreement.

The question of the target of the joint Israeli-U.S. planning has been a topic of dispute between the two sides ever since the joint political-military group was established by President Reagan and Prime Minister Shamir during the latter's visit to Washington last November.

At that time, Reagan said that first priority should be given to the growing Soviet involvement in the Middle East in order to minimize the problems which might arise in the relations between the United States and "friendly Arab countries." Prime Minister Shamir replied that "Syria presently represents the main threat to peace."

Peres Rejects Article

TA220700 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
22 Jul 84 p 1

[Ya'aqov Friedler report]

[Excerpt] Haifa — Alignment leader Shim'on Peres last night "would not believe" that the Likud government had "gone so far" as to join with the U.S. in a "strategic agreement aimed against the Soviet Union." Therefore, he doubted the accuracy of the report on the agreement in yesterday's *NEW YORK TIMES*.

Speaking at a press conference at the Zion Hotel here, Peres said the Alignment had "no ambitions" to manage the world and intervene in East-West rivalry.

"We want only to assure Israel's security in this region," he said. Though "this is a free country," he did not believe that the government had gone as far as the paper had reported.

Arens Comments on Israeli-U.S. Relations

TA201657 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1550 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 20 Jul (ITIM) — "Israeli-U.S. relations have never been as good as they are now; this fact can be proved by the financial and military aid as well as the bilateral strategic relations, which are also based on personal relations," Defense Minister Moshe Arens said at a lecture at the commercial and industrial club in Tel Aviv today.

Professor Arens stressed that we greatly need these good relations since we are a small country surrounded by enemies. He also said that for the first time now, the U.S. Senate is seriously discussing the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. "In my opinion, this is a result, among other things, of Israel's clarifying its positions to the Americans, that Israel has to keep Judea and Samaria for security reasons. On the other hand, I can note that when there is a desire to make territorial concessions, as the Alignment wants, and Rabin pro-

posed in 1977 when he was prime minister, the result was a difficult discussion between him and President Carter. We have explained our stands and therefore we were not subject to any pressure."

The defense minister added that the good relations between Israel and the United States can also be measured by the unprecedented aid we receive for the Lavi airplane. It should be recalled that this will be one of the most advanced planes in the world, and Israel has now been allowed to use \$300 million of the aid in shekels for its development.

Professor Arens said that "it is true that we were not the people who established the military industries; indeed, Mr Peres is largely to be credited for it, but over the last few years this industry has developed immensely. The investments in the military industries helped improve Israeli industry, just as they have strengthened the IDF."

Contacts With Rif'at al-Asad in Geneva Denied

TA220554 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Since the beginning of June, Israel and Syria have held direct contacts concerning a mutual withdrawal from and security arrangements in Lebanon. The contacts took place in Geneva and the Syrian side was represented by the president's brother, Rif'at al-Asad. These disclosures, which have not been confirmed by any other sources, came from very senior sources in Lebanon. Our correspondent Sha'ul Tzadqa reports from London:

[Begin recording] There is no knowing whether Rif'at intentionally stayed over in Geneva following his visit to Moscow to negotiate with Israeli representatives. However, according to sources, following the Syrian announcement of its readiness to reach an agreement on a reduction of forces in exchange for a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal, and as early as 6 weeks ago, both sides began holding direct negotiations. These negotiations were reflected in Beirut's peace plan and in the prisoner exchange, but had been designed to bear results concerning a solution to the more important issues in Lebanon.

Rif'at was empowered by his brother to negotiate on his behalf with regard to a three-stage plan: Israel would withdraw to the Az-Zahrani line in the west while Syria would thin out its forces in the western part of Al-Biq'a; Israel would withdraw from the eastern part of Al-Biq'a and the Syrian forces would pull out from the Al-Matn area; in the third stage, Israel would totally withdraw from southern Lebanon and hand over its strongholds to General Antoine Lahd's soldiers who would be reinforced by the Lebanese Army, while the Syrian Army would only partially withdraw from Lebanon.

However, the contacts ran aground. Israel wanted to retain for at least 3 years its position at Jabal al-Baruk, overlooking Al-Biq'a, but the Syrians objected; Israel wanted to retain the early-warning stations in southern Lebanon but Rif'at did not agree; Israel wanted to keep a direct operational contact with Gen Lahd to prevent terrorist infiltrations, but this request was also rejected. The Syrians argued that Israel should trust the guarantees provided by the governments in Damascus and Beirut. Syria

also wanted to retain armored brigades near Tripoli, in the western Al-Biq'a', in Shtawrah, and on the eastern slopes of Al-Biq'a'. Furthermore, Rif'at asked to retain a missile battery at Shtawrah and the Syrian early-warning stations at Dahr al-Baydar. The gap between the sides proved too wide and the negotiations were suspended, despite the fact that according to the sources Israel pressed for an agreement to be reached by election day tomorrow.

As said, the Syrians were represented by Rif'at al-Asad, who even made two lightning visits to Damascus to consult his brother, while the Israeli side was represented by senior officials. According to the disclosures, Rif'at presented his plan to the Soviets during his visit to Moscow and the latter supported the plan. [end recording]

Reacting to this report from London, sources in Jerusalem have categorically denied that Israel has recently held any contacts whatsoever with the Syrians over a possible arrangement for a withdrawal from Lebanon.

Prime Minister Makes Final Election Appeal

TA211937 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Videotaped statement by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during a Likud election advertisement — date and place not given]

[Text] A good week to all of you. Two days from now Israel will take a critical step on the long path to the future. What kind of future is it going to be walking toward? It can walk toward the continuation of the Zionist movement, toward peace and security in all of Eretz Yisra'el, toward the development of all parts of Israel, toward advancing sophisticated industry, and toward a life of dignity and prosperity for the entire nation. It might also take a step back, toward withdrawal, toward preferring part of the nation at the expense of the entire nation, toward unemployment and crises, and toward corruption once again.

You yourself, as you stand behind the curtain, will choose between these two possibilities, the Likud and the Alignment. During the Likud's 7 years in power we have made tremendous achievements: security, foreign policy, industry, exports, building and settlements, social issues, and education. We have not just had achievements, however. We are especially burdened by inflation; I have already explained the reasons for this.

After the elections we will solve this problem quickly and efficiently, and this is the main reason for my calling for the establishment of a national unity government headed by the Likud. Since my call, we have heard from many who support the idea of national unity; the people want national unity. When — with God's help — the Likud forms a government, the Alignment will not refuse to join it because it will prefer this to being in the opposition. If — heaven forbid — the Alignment is asked to form the next government, it will form, as it has already announced, a very narrow coalition, and not a national unity government, mainly because of the decisive influence of the leftist faction in the Alignment, for whom national unity is almost an obscenity.

Dear voters, please remember that the Likud has no machine, no organized working places, no control over huge economic companies, and no fleet of vehicles. All this runs counter to our conceptions and convictions. The Likud can win the elections only with the help of the public, as it is expressed by you, the voter, when you vote. With the will of the people we were able to twice beat the machine and the companies. This time, too, I believe the Likud will do so. Dear citizen, you know and believe that the Likud expresses the desires of the people: its desire for unity; its concern for the underprivileged sectors; its desire for a free economy, without monopolistic takeovers of the many by the few; its love for Eretz Yisra'el; its abhorrence for teachings alien to our spirit; our stand against political compromise. The people want a strong hand that will handle security problems based on the complete conviction that we are right. Most of the public is nationalistic in its feelings and beliefs. The Likud is the people.

Labor Candidate Peres' Final Election Appeal

TA211945 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Videotaped statement by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres during an Alignment election campaign advertisement — date and place not given]

[Text] We are all, together, willing to serve the future of the nation, a nation we believe in. For me the election campaign has also been a celebration; the public has proved to be more mature than the politicians and the parties. This election campaign has been characterized by seriousness and attentiveness; there is real concern, but there is also a burning belief. We will follow this belief and raise Israel to the level it deserves and is entitled.

A new page will be turned this Monday; I pray that the people will give us enough confidence so that early the following morning we will be able to immediately begin handling all the burning issues of the country. There is no time to lose; we must not split the political map. There are two paths: one was tried in the last 7 years with results that were not good. We can decide on a new path and begin walking forward immediately. We will unite the people, build an excellent economy, help our society regain its self-confidence and willingness to help one another; we will strengthen security and we will seek and find peace. We will be a treasured people and a light unto the nations.

Final Polls Show Alignment Holding Lead

Six-Seat Edge

TA220702 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Jul 84 p 2

[Modi'in Ezrahi public opinion poll]

[Text] A public opinion poll conducted over the weekend by the Modi'in Ezrahi research institute and published in today's issue of the newspaper *MABAT* shows that in tomorrow's elections the Alignment will receive 46 Knesset seats, the Likud will receive 40, the religious parties will receive 11, while all the remaining parties will receive 23 Knesset seats. The Tchiya emerges as the third largest party.

Advantage of Nine Seats

TA220712 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
22 Jul 84 pp 1,2

[Hanokh and Rafi Smith report]

[Excerpt] The Alignment will win 48 seats to the Likud's 41 in tomorrow's elections, according to the final poll conducted by the Smith Research Centre on Wednesday and Thursday nights.

The poll among 1,200 Jewish voters throughout the country also indicated that while the Alignment will not attract the Sephardi votes away from the Likud, many former Likud supporters will desert the party for the smaller parties.

The poll showed the Alignment winning 38 percent of the Jewish vote, with the Likud getting 33 percent. Compared to the Smith poll of two weeks ago, this shows a 1.5 percent drop for the Alignment and a 3.5 percent gain for the Likud.

With estimates of the Arab vote, and taking into account surplus vote agreements, the Smith organization projects the following distribution of Knesset seats: Alignment — 48; Likud — 41; Tehiya — 5-6; National Religious Party, Morasha — 5; Agudat Yisra'el, Sephardi Torah Guardians — 5; TAMI — 1-2; Shinuy, Citizen's Rights Movement, Eli'av — 6-7; Yahad — 3; Progressive List for Peace, RAKAH — 4-5; Others — 0-1.

West Bank Attitudes Toward Elections Noted

TA230714 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
23 Jul 84 p 3

[David Richardson report]

[Excerpt] An Arab printer in this newspaper's press shop surprised his colleagues over lunch in the canteen late last week when he told them that if he had the vote he would support KAKH candidate Me'ir Kahana.

"He is the only one who is promising 'to deal with us'," he said, parodying the racist propaganda of the American-born rabbi who advocates expelling most of the Arab population in the Land of Israel.

That is black humour, but it should not mislead one into thinking that Arab residents of the territories are indifferent to the outcome of today's election. "After all, much of our well-being and our future do depend on Israel which is occupying us," said Bashir Baghruti, the leader of the West Bank Communist Party.

A number of leading figures in the West Bank stated recently in a survey by the West Bank weekly *AL-'AWDAH* that they believe the Alignment will win the election, but they doubted whether a new government would be able to make substantial changes in the policy of occupation.

Most felt that the Alignment would make cosmetic changes and "improve the atmosphere," but would not really have the "courage or strength" to address Palestinian nationalist aspirations.

"The differences between the government and the opposition are only tactical," said Bassam Ash-Shak'ah, the former mayor of Nablus who lost his legs in a Jewish terrorist attack four years ago. "At a strategic level both are utterly against the idea of a separate Palestinian state on the West Bank. Labour is looking for a deal with Jordan so that Israel can get rid of as much of the West Bank and its inhabitants as is consistent with its ideas of security. This will rob us of our rights just as surely as occupation."

Ash-Shak'ah, despite the aid he received from King Husayn following his maiming, remains implacably hostile to the idea of renewed Jordanian control over the West Bank. But Husayn still enjoys and actively fosters support on the West Bank, and his followers there would welcome the idea of federation with his Kingdom.

They argue that under the Alignment, a deal with Jordan is at least possible and that would end the occupation. Under the Likud they know the government's policies were designed to prevent that occupation.

Given the repeatedly demonstrated absence of leadership in the West Bank or Gaza, for that matter, some deal between Labour and Husayn seems preferable.

East Jerusalem newspapers have been carrying widespread coverage and commentary on the election campaign over the past weeks. *AL-FAJR*, one of the most radically nationalist of the papers, even went so far as to publish large advertisements in support of the joint Arab-Jewish Progressive List for Peace led by Haifa lawyer Muhammad Mi'ari.

The publication of the notices has reportedly led to a deep rift in the paper's editorial staff.

Privately many West Bankers are speculating that one of the first moves an Alignment government might make is to implement unilateral autonomy along lines suggested by the late Moshe Dayan, who is widely acknowledged as the major architect of Israel's policies in the territories.

For some strange reason the idea has taken on and is greeted favourably, although only two years ago, when it was associated with the Camp David agreements and the introduction of the civil administration, it was dismissed out of hand as a trick.

For most Palestinians in the territories, then, Israel's elections are rather like a neighbour's party to which they have not been invited. They watch from their balcony, often feign indifference but are embarrassedly envious as well. As Abud, a cook in a Jerusalem restaurant mused when asked if he would like the vote, "I have an I.D. card. I suppose I could take out citizenship and vote — but you know that for us that is very difficult."

Whatever the rhetoric in public, many Palestinian Arabs would like to see a change in government, simply because, as one of the East Jerusalem paper's leader writers said over the weekend, "A change of government gives us that much more hope, and that is something we really need."

Arabic Language Comment on Election, Policy

JN221551 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1335 GMT 22 Jul 84

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi says that the results of the Israeli elections will not change Israel's policy toward the Arab world. Regardless of whether or not Klibi's statement implied a negative opinion of Israel, this statement he made in Damascus last week is in itself very true. This is because the same political line which all of the Israeli governments have thus far pursued and which any future government will pursue, has been and will always remain the line of genuine peace. It will be the policy of extending a hand seeking peace to all Arab people. Real peace with the Arab states concerned has been, is, and will always remain the supreme aim of the Israeli Government and people.

In light of this firm fact and stemming from the nature of the Israeli democratic system, any government that may be formed as a result of tomorrow's elections will firmly and honestly pursue the line of genuine peace and of sincere endeavors to realize peace. Hence, Israel is not the side which should be expected to amend or change its policy toward the Arab world, as Chedli Klibi implied in his statement. The Arab side is the one which should be expected to change its negative stands toward Israel and to amend its destructive policy toward the cause of peace with Israel.

The root of the causes of hindering the march of peace and preventing a comprehensive settlement in the region has always been the presence of certain Arab rulers who embrace a policy of opportunism, maneuvering, and double standards. The root has also been the policy of rejection pursued by certain other Arab leaders and by those who still believe in the policy of extremism and fanaticism; who believe in pursuing the destructive trends that have created the Israeli-Arab struggle itself; and who have played the major role in continuing the bloody, tragic strife over the past few decades.

In conclusion, we may say that realizing comprehensive, genuine peace in our region is not primarily connected with the results of the Israeli elections. It will always be contingent on the Arab rulers concerned opting for peace and on the appearance of Arab leaders of the weight and caliber of the late Egyptian President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

Polling for 11th Knesset General Elections Begins

TA230414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Polling is just starting in the general elections for the 11th Knesset. Over 2 million Israelis are eligible to vote, but about 150,000 voters are abroad on holiday. Many Israelis have returned home to vote and the airlines have added flights to meet the demand.

Egyptian Charge d'Affaires on Mutual Relations

TA220636 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
22 Jul 84 pp 1, 2

[Report on interview with Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni by political correspondent Mark Segal at the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv "over the weekend"]

[Text] Tel Aviv — Egypt is now calling for an international conference for peace in the Middle East with Soviet participation. This emerged from a JERUSALEM POST interview at the weekend with Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni. Basyuni explained to THE POST that such a conference was in accordance with a UN General Assembly resolution in December last year. Egyptian policy, he said, favoured the October, 1977, U.S.-Soviet communique which advocated holding such a conference in Geneva.

Interviewed at the Egyptian Embassy on Basel Street here, Basyuni declared that Egyptian advocacy of the conference conformed with the UN majority position, "and with its conviction of the necessity to find alternate and suitable formulas acceptable to all the concerned parties to overcome the current standstill and its increasingly tense and complicated consequences."

The Egyptian envoy denied that this formula involved a deviation from the Camp David framework agreement, particularly regarding the bringing in of the Soviets. He noted that the Camp David treaty also referred to the involvement of Jordanian and Palestinian representatives, but that these parties had yet to sign the agreement.

The peace initiative would be based on UN Security Council Resolution 242 and "is a framework that needs to be filled in," said Basyuni.

As to the involvement of the Russians, the Egyptian charge d'affaires declared, "We have nothing against the Soviet Union. There is a need to recognize Soviet interests in the Middle East."

In response to a question about a prior requirement of Soviet recognition of Israel for such an involvement, Basyuni pointed out "the Soviets do recognize Israel, only there are no diplomatic relations between the two countries."

He declared that "the ball is in the court of whichever Israeli government takes office as regards renewing the momentum of an overall peace settlement in the Middle East."

Basyuni who has recently been on a two-day home visit, meeting new Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and other senior Egyptian policy-makers, noted that the new government's main focus would be on the domestic front. Foreign policy would continue regarding fostering peace with Israel and "pursuing and completing the peace process to attain a joint and durable settlement of the Palestinian problem."

The policy lines of the new government talk of "preserving the balance in Egypt's relations with the two superpowers," Basyuni went on, explaining that the exchange of ambassadors between

Cairo and Moscow was a step towards restoring full relations between the two countries without affecting existing Egyptian international obligations.

He said there had been no break between the two countries, only that the ambassadors were recalled after the authorities discovered, 18 months ago, Soviet bloc embassies' involvement in a Communist plot.

Stressing that there was no change in Egyptian foreign policy, the envoy emphasized that President Husni Mubarak had always sought good relations with both superpowers. He was sure the U.S. was fully aware of Mubarak's consistent pursuit of peace with Israel and other countries.

As to the renewed peace initiative, Basyuni said it should not wait until after the U.S. presidential elections in November.

"Everything depends on real peace in the area, and the realization that the peace treaty with Israel was a first step in that direction. New concepts must be infused into the process and new elements — specifically that Jordan and representatives of the Palestinians must join in," Basyuni explained.

"How can you expect King Husayn and representatives of the Palestinians to join the process if you say all of the West Bank is not negotiable. That certainly is an obstacle in the path of peace." He reiterated that "whether it is a Likud or Labour government it will meet the outstretched hand of peace. But real peace cannot be imposed, certainly not on the inhabitants of the West Bank."

As to the prospects of returning the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Basyuni declared, "The reasons for recalling the ambassador are still valid; a prerequisite for the ambassador's return is their elimination."

However, "we cannot ignore the concrete fact that relations remain steady between Egypt and Israel, as shown by the existence of embassies, consulates, trade, tourism and so forth."

The charge d'affaires reported the consulate issued 46,000 visas in Tel Aviv during 1983 to Israelis wishing to visit Egypt, including 9,000 visas for those touring Egypt during the Passover holiday.

Correspondent Attends Egyptian Embassy Reception

*TA230637 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 23 Jul 84*

[Text] Yesterday a reception was given by the Egyptian Embassy to mark Egypt's national day. The number of participants attending this reception, 1 hour after the election campaign ended, was impressive. Many people flooded the Egyptian Embassy. The presence of the leaders of all parties, representing the entire political spectrum, was notable. Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a was also there.

[Begin Barne'a recording] The Egyptians were surprised, but we must add in a positive sense, at the response to the invitations sent for yesterday's reception. At the Egyptian celebration lead-

ers of all the parties and political currents could be seen smiling at one another, and exchanging greetings and wishes for success.

An hour after the end of the election campaign everybody went to the poolside at a Tel Aviv hotel, and continued there what could no longer be done at public rallies. The chief of staff and his deputy, Knesset members, judges and qadis, representatives of the minorities, top government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, Arab public figures in the territories, all came to greet the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel on the occasion of Egypt's national holiday, which by pure chance fell this year on the eve of the Israeli elections.

I am happy that so many Israelis came to participate in the celebration of our day of revolution, Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni told us. This is proof that the Israeli people, whether the government or the opposition, attach special importance to relations with Egypt.

[Barne'a — translates and continues] There is no doubt, says Basyuni, that relations with Egypt are important for all the parties in Israel. What I am looking forward to, however, is a real and comprehensive peace based on justice.

Those who questioned this special event which took place yesterday in Tel Aviv were the veterans of the Israeli Embassy in Cairo. They asked why so few Egyptian officials and media representatives attended the reception given by the Israeli Embassy in Cairo to mark our Independence Day. Why, despite the fact that Egypt recalled its ambassador, does nearly everyone, in an almost complete lineup, appear here?

Arabic Language Reportage

*JN230906 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
0430 GMT 23 Jul 84*

[Text] The Egyptian Embassy in Israel last night held its traditional reception on the occasion of the 23 July anniversary at the Diplomat Hotel in Tel Aviv. Our correspondent Emile Khaz'al said that the reception was attended by a large number of ministers, Knesset members, Israeli political party leaders, and West Bank and Gaza figures.

Among those attending the reception were Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, IDF Chief of Staff General Moshe Levi, Labor Party Leader Shim'on Peres, former Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon, former Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, legal qadis, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, and a number of foreign ambassadors and consuls.

Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni expressed his satisfaction with the participation of a large number of Israeli figures in the embassy's reception. He said: These figures represent the various sects, categories, and political trends of the Israeli people.

Three Corpses Returned by Syria not IDF Soldiers

TA230743 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0735 GMT
23 Jul 84

[Text] The following is an IDF spokesman's announcement: On 28 June, in the framework of the prisoner exchange, the Syrians turned five coffins over to Israel. In two of them were found the bodies of Major Aharon Katz and Lieutenant Zohar Liepschitz. The three other coffins were taken for examination and identification by a team of experts headed by the IDF's chief rabbi. Now, following the examination, it appears beyond any doubt that the three bodies in these coffins are not those of IDF soldiers. The State of Israel continues to make every effort to learn the fate of missing soldiers Sergeant Tzvi Feldman, Sergeant Zekharya Baumel, Corporal Yehuda Katz, and Sergeant Samir As'ad.

FRG Greens Delegation Holds News Conference

TA201558 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1350 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 20 Jul (ITIM) — "I doubt that this movement, the Progressive List for Peace, will prove ephemeral and disappear after the elections. The same remarks were made about us, and we are prospering," said Otto Schily, a member of the West German Bundestag. He came to Israel together with other members of his party, the Greens, in order to express solidarity with the Progressive List for Peace.

Other Green Party members also present at the news conference were (Guenther Hopfenmueller) and (George Dick-Nins) who, together with the chairman of the Progressive List for Peace, held a news conference at Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv. In reply to a question, Mr Schily explained that his party will welcome a positive response from the PLO for a dialogue between Jews and Arabs on a human basis, as advocated by the Progressive List for Peace. The dialogue should aim at peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs in this country.

The platform of the Progressive List for peace favors Israel's right to live in peace and advocates that the Palestinian and Israeli people should recognize each other. Israel should also recognize the right of the Palestinian people to have a state of their own, and the Green Line which will in the future separate the two states will then become a line of peace, the German guest said.

Asked about his contacts with HADASH, Mr Schily answered: "We have no time to hold talks with them. Our attitude vis-a-vis the Soviet Union is known and we have declared a policy of neutrality regarding the two major blocs."

On another question, the Bundestag members replied that his party is against anti-Semitism and racism. "We firmly reject all arguments tying us to anti-Semitism," Mr Schily said, and added: "I have both Jewish and Palestinian friends and I do not see that as a contradiction." In this respect, Mr Avneri of the Progressive List for Peace remarked that these rumors about anti-Semitism are connected with a right-wing Greens movement.

The German guests stressed that they have not come to interfere in the election campaign in Israel but to know the country, to gather information, and to express solidarity with the Progressive List for Peace. "We belong to the world peace movement and we do not see anything negative in our support for a revolutionary attempt to create a dialogue between the Jewish and Palestinian populations."

They also stressed that Germany's participation in the political process in Israel is nothing new, and that there are funds supporting the Liberals on the one hand, and the socialist parties on the other.

Establishment of Three New Settlements Approved

TA221158 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Text] The Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs has approved the establishment of three additional settlements in the territories. During the meeting, it was decided to establish the settlements of Tirza and Ilanit in Samaria, and a fishing village north of Gaza.

The committee also rejected the appeal of Nisim Zvili, the Alignment representative and co-chairman of the World Zionist Organization's Settlement Department, regarding the decision at last week's meeting — which Zvili boycotted — to approve the establishment of four settlements.

Two New Settlements in Gaza

TA221412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Two new settlements were established in the Gaza Strip at noon: Rafiah Yam, near the Rafah border area, and Nezarim, near the Green Line. Our correspondent Moshe Halevi reports that the ceremony of turning the outpost of Nisanit into a civilian settlement is now underway in the northern Gaza Strip.

At noon, the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs approved the establishment of three additional settlements in the territories: Tirza and Ilanit in Samaria and a fishermen's village north of Gaza.

KAKH Member Sentenced for Attack on Arab Bus

TA221845 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] A verdict was handed down in the affair of firing on an Arab bus near Ramallah: Mat Leibovitz, a member of the KAKH movement, was sentenced to 39 months in jail and 33 months suspended sentence. Leibovitz is a member of the group which attacked an Arab bus at the entrance to Ramallah 4 months ago. Eight of the passengers on the bus were slightly wounded in the incident.

Our police affairs correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports that the state's Attorney's Office appealed the light sentence

meted out to another group member, Levi Hazan, who was sentenced to 21 months imprisonment.

Arab 'Terrorist' Sentenced to 30-Year Imprisonment

TA221326 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] The Lod military court has handed down a sentence of 30-years in prison to Ibrahim Muahmmad 'Ali Shanti, 28, of Qalqilyah, who planted explosives near Benjamin's Tomb near Kefar Sava at the beginning of last year. A civil defense soldier was wounded and his car destroyed by the explosion.

70 Arabs Detained Following Grenade Attack

TA211714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] In Nabulus at least five people were injured, including one soldier, when a grenade was thrown at an Israeli Army patrol. The Israel Army spokesman said that the five were wounded by a grenade thrown by an unidentified assailant at the soldiers. The spokesman added that a 6-hour curfew was imposed on the Casbah area of Nabulus, and that soldiers searched the area where the attack occurred. At least 70 Arabs were detained in connection with the attack.

IDF Closes Al-'Awwali Bridges for Elections

TA230511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Yesterday the IDF closed the Al-'Awwali bridges, and today there will be no traffic crossing between southern and northern Lebanon.

IDF officers explained to southern Lebanese inhabitants that the crossings were closed in order to tighten security on the eve of the Israeli elections.

South Lebanese Army Commander Attacked

TA230644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] In the village of Ansar in southern Lebanon an attempt was made last night to assassinate one of the commanders of the army of southern Lebanon. Armed persons entered his home and fired automatic weapons, but they did not hit anyone. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the assailants then escaped in a waiting car, and during their getaway they shot at a roadblock manned by soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon. There were no injuries. At present wide-scale searches are being carried out.

Flatto-Sharon Supporters Join Labor Party

TA230711 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
23 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Tel Aviv — Former active members and candidates in Shmu'el Flatto-Sharon's party held a press conference under police protection late last week to announce that they have formed a new movement, Yesh 'Atid (There Is a Future), and joined the Labour Party.

Yosi Pe'er, former secretary-general of Flatto-Sharon's party and leader of the new movement, said the police had been called to Bet Sokolov because Flatto-Sharon's people had threatened to disrupt the press conference and beat up those of their former colleagues who participated.

ALGERIA

Malian Foreign Minister in Algiers for Talks

AB221430 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, is now in Algiers to jointly preside over the fifth session of the Algeria-Mali Joint Commission for Cooperation.

Envoys Present Credentials to Chadli Bendjedid

PM201353 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 16 July 84
pp 1, 12

[Editorial Report] On 16 July EL MOUDJAHID carries a 900-word APS report on a ceremony held in Algiers the previous day during which the following new ambassadors to Algeria presented their credentials to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid: Australian Ambassador Charles Gerald O'Hanlon, and Tunisian Ambassador Nouredine Hached.

LIBYA

U.S.-UK Base in Oman Threat to Africa, Asia

LD212110 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The American-British agreement on developing their Masirah base aids the formation of Rapid Deployment Forces which threaten regions in Asia and Africa, and in a direct manner, the Arab homeland. We offer the following comment:

Oman, situated in the east of the Arab homeland, occupies an important strategic position, something which attracts the attention of the colonialist forces, primarily the United States. Through the stationing of naval forces in this region, the Arab Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula are being threatened, and many regions in the Pacific [as heard] Ocean are being controlled. The United States, exploiting the events of the Gulf War, has escalated its military presence in this important region of the Arab homeland by reinforcing its naval forces. The United States has allocated \$62 million for developing the Masirah base in Oman, one of the main American bases on Arab soil. It is also preparing two air defense projects, due to be completed in 1988, at a cost of \$400 million.

At a time when liberated countries are striving to liquidate military bases and colonialist hegemony in its many forms, the agent Qabus has begun in an intensive way, especially since 1980, to extend U.S. military bases in Oman and to give the United States more control and powers, thus transforming Oman into an arsenal of advanced American weaponry and soldiers. As a result of the growth of this weaponry, which includes land weapons such as M-60 tanks, 105 mm artillery and amphibious vehicles, America has embarked on extending its military bases in Oman,

particularly Masirah, so as to absorb these weapons, as well as radar stations and military airfields.

Informed sources have disclosed that the United States and Britain have agreed to strengthen the military base in Diego Garcia for use by NATO forces, thus making it one of the most important bases in the Pacific [as heard] Ocean, serving U.S. military tyranny in this region.

Masirah base was developed to include 15 fighter plane squadrons — 5 of which are British; 12 bomber squadrons — 4 of which are British; 4 AWACS spy planes; the establishment of a radio communications base covering the Arabian Peninsula, Southeast Asia and East Africa is also planned. This base coordinates with a similar one being built in western Sudan.

The extension of the Masirah base in Oman comes within the context of the formation of Rapid Deployment Forces. This American base is being developed in an Arab country to accept Pershing and Cruise nuclear missiles to be aimed at Arab and African countries. The Pentagon has allocated \$30 billion for American-British military expansion in Oman, a huge sum, earmarked only for military purposes, which threatens world peace and security. Joint American-British expenditure does not conceal both sides' intentions — to consolidate their military presence in the Arab Gulf and the Pacific [as heard] Ocean.

The linking of the Masirah base in Oman with the American aggressive military base in Sudan confirms that America and its allies are preparing to threaten the Arab homeland and harm the interests of the Arab nation. America and Britain strive to achieve all that is contrary to the Arabs' interests. This colonialist policy falls in the context of the policy of vacuum filling, adopted by American imperialism to impose its control and hegemony over the Arab homeland and the Third World. The intensive American-British presence at Masirah base in Oman confirms this. Masirah is a bridgehead for threatening aggression in Asia and Africa, foremost, of course, the Arab homeland.

Egyptian Group's Statement Criticizes Cairo Regime

LD221649 Tripoli JANA in English 1452 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 24, July 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Egyptian National Front in Jamahiriya has released a statement on the 32nd anniversary of the rise of the July 23rd Revolution. The statement said: The liberation of Cairo on the morning of July 23rd, 1952 was the beginning of the only road which has no alternative, as the suffering of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir during Al-Faluga siege showed the reality that the battle with Zionism, colonialism and reaction is one and inseparable.

The Statement also said: If the July 23rd Revolution had succeeded in paving the difficult path amidst a weak Arab reality over which the shadow of colonialism allied with its reactionary and treacherous agents was hovering and to realise for Egypt and the Arabs a great deal of achievements, it was only natural to see all those whose interests collided with the objectives of July 23rd Revolution awaiting to undermine it. It is also normal to see that the revolution's struggle against them had been, from its very

beginning, a fierce and continuous one. If in the absence of 'Abd an-Nasir, As-Sadat had been able to turn his back on the revolution, using all the implements of destruction against its achievements and opening the door to the Zionists, imperialists and reactionaries to gain from Egypt and its people what had been lost during 'Abd an-Nasir's era, the successors of the As-Sadatist regime in Egypt are still following the same path.

It further confirmed that since the passing away of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, Egypt has been following a downward and deteriorating path and will not resume the uphill journey unless it returns to the 23rd July An-Nasirite nationalist and liberational revolutionary path and rids itself from the humiliating Camp David agreements. As-Sadat's actions against Egypt were aimed against all Arab masses. The only option before these masses, their organizations and arenas of struggle is to unite so as to topple the Camp David path which is in the process of being passed in different Arab arenas under new names. Victory however will inevitably be on the side of the masses.

MAURITANIA

Morocco Warns Against Sheltering Polisario Forces

'Sources' View Warning

NC211503 Paris AFP in English 1447 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Dakar, July 21 (AFP) — Morocco's warning yesterday to Mauritania over raids by Polisario Front guerrillas in disputed Western Sahara could be a pretext for Moroccan aggression against its southern neighbour, sources close to the Mauritanian Government said today. King Hassan II of Morocco said in a strongly worded protest note to Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala yesterday that Polisario Front guerrillas fighting for control of Western Sahara had launched two attacks on Morocco from Mauritania. If the attacks continued, the Moroccan Army would pursue the attackers into Mauritanian territory, the king said.

The sources in the Mauritanian capital of Nouakchott, contacted from here, asked: "What is King Hassan trying to do? Why threaten Mauritania with a right of pursuit which Morocco has never carried out elsewhere?"

There has been no official reaction to the Moroccan warning in the Mauritanian capital, but observers there said the protest note had been greeted with bitterness and deep concern. The Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas admitted carrying out attacks on four Moroccan positions earlier this week, saying 73 Moroccan soldiers had been killed. But they officially denied today that the actions in the southwest of Western Sahara had been launched from Mauritania.

Mauritania has lived in fear of direct aggression from Morocco since the Nouakchott Government recognised the Polisario-proclaimed Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) in February. This fear was behind a Cabinet reshuffle carried out in March which reassigned senior officers who had been serving as ministers to purely military tasks. At the same time, the govern-

ment repeatedly stressed its wish to remain neutral in the Western Sahara conflict.

President Ould Haydala said that his government had recognised the SDAR in order to force the guerrillas not to cross Mauritania's borders in carrying out their attacks against Moroccan posts. Earlier this month the government took reporters to the north of the country to show that the area was held by Mauritanian troops and not Polisario guerrillas.

Nouakchott claims that a defensive wall completed by Morocco in Western Sahara last May ended far enough from the Mauritanian border to allow the guerrillas to go around it while remaining on "Saharan territory." It also points out that this hilly part of Western Sahara was more suited to hiding military operations than the flat terrain on the Mauritanian side of the border.

On the Mauritanian national holiday, July 10, President Ould Haydala again stressed his country's neutrality in the desert war, and said he hoped to normalise relations with the "brother kingdom" of Morocco in accordance with agreements reached at the 1981 Islamic summit in Ta'if, Saudi Arabia. Under the terms of these agreements, each of the two countries promised not to allow attacks on the other to be launched from its soil. Mauritania now says Morocco is not respecting these agreements because it is sheltering opponents of the Mauritanian regime who are seeking to overthrow the Nouakchott Government.

Yesterday's warning from King Hassan II can only serve to revive Mauritania's fears and will oblige the political and military authorities to increase their vigilance at the borders, where a large number of troops have been stationed for the past five months, observers in Nouakchott said.

President Denies Accusations

AB221336 Paris AFP in English 1213 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Nouakchott, July 22 (AFP) — Mauritania today denied accusations from Rabat that it was giving shelter to Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for control of the Western Sahara. The Mauritanian president, Lt. Col. Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, said in a message to King Hassan of Morocco that "our territory has never served, and will never serve, as a base for attacks against your forces."

King Hassan's accusations came in a protest note yesterday which said that the Polisario had made two attacks on Moroccan forces from Mauritania. If such attacks continued, Morocco would assert its right of "hot pursuit" of the guerrillas into Mauritanian territory, he warned.

President Haydala said that since Mauritania gave up its claim to the southern part of the former Spanish Sahara and signed a peace treaty with the Polisario in 1979 "we have stated our determination to remain outside the conflict and taken all necessary steps to this end." Numerous "impartial observers" who had seen the situation on the spot had been able to confirm the truth of Nouakchott's statements and its good faith, President Hay-

dala said, noting that journalists and foreign military attaches had visited the border area of northern Mauritania 10 days ago.

Blaming Nouakchott for events which had nothing to do with it could only worsen relations between Morocco and Mauritania, President Haydala added. Such an effect did not correspond with Mauritania's wish and intention to have relations of trust with Morocco, based on mutual respect and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, he said. But President Haydala said this "sincere desire" for normal relations with Morocco would not lead Mauritania to play a role that it had abandoned in July 1978, with the overthrow of previous President Ould Dadda, who had tried to divide Western Sahara with Morocco, excluding the Polisario. Mauritania had abandoned the struggle over Western Sahara for good, and was determined to prevent any attempt aimed at involving it again, President Haydala said.

The country had more important tasks in national reconstruction and defence of its territory, the Mauritanian leader concluded, though it was ready to continue efforts to bring the war over the Western Sahara to a peaceful close.

President Cables Moroccan King

LD222304 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, has sent the following reply telegram to King Hassan II, king of Morocco, in answer to the telegram he received through [word indistinct] concerning the military operations which took place recently in the Dakhla area. Here is the text of the telegram:

Your Majesty: I received the telegram you addressed to me after I read it in the press, the telegram which concerns military operations which took place on 13 and 19 July in the Dakhla area. First, permit me to categorically refute the accusations contained in this telegram, which said that Mauritanian territory had been used by the attackers.

As I stressed to you previously, our territory has not been used and will not be used ever as a base for an attack on your forces. In actual fact, ever since the withdrawal of our country from the war going on between brothers, we have affirmed without any vagueness our wish to remain outside the conflict, and we took all measures necessary for this purpose.

The numerous missions undertaken by impartial observers to see conditions from close quarters confirmed our good intentions and the trustworthiness of our statements. Not more than 10 days have passed since the visit of the last mission; therefore in this case, what is the reason for the attempt to lay the blame on Mauritania for incidents with which, Mauritania had no connection, whenever they took place in the Western Sahara?

Such attitudes cannot help improve bilateral relations, the deterioration of which undoubtedly harms the higher interests of the fraternal Moroccan and Mauritanian peoples? This deterioration is not in harmony with our desire and will to establish

relations with the Moroccan Kingdom on the basis of confidence and mutual respect and noninterference in domestic affairs. Our readiness in this respect has never changed and will always remain so.

However, our genuine desire to normalize our relations with Morocco will not drive us to play — (?to appease whatever) quarter — a role rejected unanimously by our people on 10 July 1978 [the day the Army took power in Mauritania].

The Islamic Mauritanian Republic had already quit the war of the Western Sahara and it is firmly resolved to repel any attempt to return to this war. We are devoting our potential to a more honorable struggle — namely, the struggle for national construction and defense of our territorial integrity against any aggression.

On the other hand, we will spare no effort to bring a speedy end to this fratricidal war which is destroying the energies and aspirations of the nations of the Arab Maghreb.

Please accept the highest fraternal esteem.

[Signed] Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydallah.

Morocco Blamed for Problems

LD230122 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Commenting on Mauritanian President Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala's reply to King Hassan II, the MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY [AMP] writes: It has become established in Mauritanian-Moroccan relations that the Moroccan Kingdom, from time to time, lodges accusations and threats against the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, despite our genuine desire to normalize relations with this fraternal country.

Recently, Morocco escalated the situation by threatening to resort to and use military means against our country. Therefore, we hasten to say that Mauritania will not submit to these attempts, and will not be dissuaded by these threats from continuing to adhere to its neutral and unchanging stand which it has chosen for the Western Sahara problem ever since the first moments when it decided by its own free will to quite this struggle.

Whatever the case, the Moroccan Kingdom alone bears responsibility for any deterioration in relations between the two countries and for reflection of this on the entire area. Moroccan accusations are made every time Saharan fighters mount attacks on Morocco, wherever these battles take place. It seems that Morocco, in all cases, is determined to involve our country in the matter. Morocco's pretext in this regard is to make Moroccan and international opinion believe that it is in complete control over the entire Saharan soil, and the military walls it had built in the area make Mauritania a crossing place for the Saharan fighters.

One wonders in such a situation why Morocco does not listen to Mauritania's statements and repeated affirmations that its territory does not harbor any foreign troops, and that it has not been used and will not be used by either side as a base from which attacks are made. Morocco, more than any other country, is fully aware of the steps Mauritania has taken to prevent any attempt to involve it in this struggle.

Despite this, Morocco insists on implying that its defense system is so tight that it is impossible for anyone to infiltrate its soil except through Mauritania. This leads us to point out that weakness of the defensive system which Morocco boasts is so effective. Most of the military observers who have knowledge about conditions, noticed that the lines of defense which the Moroccan Armed Forces have built in actual fact are no more than a continuation of the defensive system established around the area known as the triangle which links the sectors of El Aioun, Semara and Bou Craa. These observers believe that Morocco, by extending its permanent defensive lines, increases the vulnerability of its lines and their susceptibility to attacks by the Saharan Army which is equipped with modern weapons. This was recently admitted by the commander of the Moroccan forces in the Sahara at a press conference.

Mauritania loudly declares that the logical and just solution to the problem can be achieved only through peaceful means, and in accordance with the resolutions of the 19th OAU session.

MOROCCO

King Warns Mauritanian Leader Against Attacks

LD201318 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, has sent a message to Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, following two armed attacks on the Dakhla region initiated from Mauritanian soil. Here is the text of the royal message:

Mr President,

The Dakhla region was subjected to two successive armed attacks, the first on 13 July and the second on 19 July. Whether one refers to the first or the second attack, the raiders set out from Mauritanian soil and in both cases we ordered our forces not to pursue the enemy outside the borders of our country. This state of affairs cannot continue without our Royal Armed Forces finding themselves forced, in the process of repulsing attacks against them, to pursue the aggressors to the places from which they set out. If we find ourselves faced with this possibility, then you are not ignorant of the size of the grave consequences this would have to our two countries. Until now we have been eager to preserve their good relations despite the adventures which irresponsible elements wanted to involve them in them. We know that you are in control of affairs in your country and, consequently, the infiltrations from Mauritania cannot be unknown to your government. Therefore, it alone bears full responsibility. We are certain that every escalation of the situation in relation

to our two countries would be harmful to both of them.

We are also certain that you understand very well that Morocco cannot accept having its national soil subjected to armed attacks without making a suitable reply. Therefore, we hope to see you take the necessary attitude to control a situation which, if not put to an end, will immediately lead to unfavorable consequences, a situation which is at any rate certainly rejected by us. We shoulder our responsibilities and we do not doubt that you will in turn shoulder yours.

Please accept our highest appreciation.

[Signed] Hassan II, King of Morocco

King Meets With Libyan, Saudi, Qatari Envoys

LD211342 Rabat MAP in English 1208 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Casablanca, July 21 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received here Friday evening Mr Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy, emissary of Libyan President Col Mu'amar al-Qadhafi to the sovereign. The meeting was attended by the minister of the interior, Driss Basri, adviser to the King Ahmed Reda Guedira, and the ambassador of Libya to Rabat.

The sovereign also received Amir 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, first vice-president of the Ministers' Council and head of the National Guard.

Earlier, King Hassan II had received the ambassador of Qatar and dean of the diplomatic corps accredited to Rabat who bade the sovereign farewell at the end of his mission in Morocco. The monarch decorated the Qatari diplomat with the Grand Cordon of the Alaouite Quissam. Minister of foreign affairs, Abdelouahed Belkiz, and minister of the royal household protocol and chancellery, Moulay Abdelhafid Alaoui attended the meeting.

MENA Interviews State Minister Boucetta

NC201455 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Rabat, 20 Jul (MENA) — M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state and leader of the Istiqlal Party, has stressed that no one can envision solutions for the current problems in the Arab arena without taking Egypt into account. He said an important development has taken place in Egypt manifested by Egypt's stands on the Palestinian issue, the Gulf war, and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Boucetta praised Egyptian-Moroccan relations, describing them as being the best they can be. He said relations are characterized by mutual respect between President Husni Mubarak and King Hassan II, who know each other very well and who each appreciate what the other is doing. These remarks came in an exclusive interview with the MENA correspondent in Rabat during which Boucetta dealt with the situation in the Arab arena and Morocco's internal situation.

Replying to a question on relations between Egypt and Morocco,

Boucetta stressed that Morocco's relations with Egypt and with the majority of Arab countries are the best they can be. He said: Although we are geographically far from the confrontation line [with Israel] we are still in a state of confrontation both nationally and strategically. We consider the role entrusted to Egypt, not only concerning the Arab group but also concerning Africa and the world, to be important and basic.

He said Egypt's contribution to the Arab group is very important. One can say that this contribution is decisive in some aspects. Therefore, our commitments inside the Arab League and our stands regarding Egypt's treatment of some problems have not and will not change because they are objective stands.

Boucetta went on to say: We consider Egypt's return to the Arab and Islamic ranks to be of great benefit because no one can envision solutions for current problems without taking Egypt into account. He pointed out that removing Egypt from the Arab fold was a gain for the enemy and putting Egypt back in its rightful position is a gain for the Arab issue.

He said Morocco believes that its relationship with Egypt should be based on these considerations which are beneficial to the Arab nation. There is no intrinsic or temporary interest; the Pan-Arab interest should be put above all else.

Replying to a question on the regrettable state of divisiveness which the Arab countries and the Arab League have reached, Boucetta said that no one can deny that the Arab world is divided. He added that the Arab countries emerged from the Fez conference for the first time with an agreement that appeared to unify their opinions because it was a practical agreement aimed at achieving peace in the area. But, unfortunately, we have witnessed some behavior by a number of Arab countries that is not compatible with the same course.

Boucetta described the Arab differences as being more artificial than deep. He asserted that the differences concern persons more than real problems. He said, for example, that the Gulf war would not have continued until now had the Arabs been united, because the role played by some Arab countries has been one of the reasons for the continuation of the war.

Boucetta expressed his belief that the Arab League's role has not yet ended. He said the league is the basic framework for solving disputes and unifying ranks. There is no doubt that there is a need to amend its charter and to look with more depth into the role that the league should play.

Concerning the Sahara issue and the accusations levelled against Moroccan diplomacy in dealing with this problem, Boucetta said: We consider the Sahara part of Moroccan soil. But when the issue was submitted at the international level Morocco agreed to the idea of [holding] a plebiscite — although this infringes on its sovereignty — in response to the requests and persistence of a number of leaders and friends.

He added that Algeria has played a fundamental role in cutting this region off from Morocco. The Istiqlal Party has tried to establish relations with the Algerian Liberation Front despite this and on the premise that unity in the region is an urgent

matter for its people.

Regarding the extent of Libyan assistance to the Polisario, the Moroccan minister of state said that Libya stopped its aid to the Polisario after having supplied it with large quantities of weapons. This occurred following Colonel Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi's visit to Morocco last year at his request and after he had seen the facts. Boucetta expressed his hope that Libya will continue along this line.

In reply to a question on the legislative elections which will be held in Morocco and on whether guarantees have been made to ensure freedom and impartiality, M'Hamed Boucetta said that the issue of elections is quite important to the Moroccan people because it is through elections that the Moroccan people will make their free choice within the framework of the constitutional monarchy.

He added that King Hassan II has strongly emphasized and continues to emphasize that elections must be held in a free atmosphere. A special committee has been formed comprising the prime minister, the ministers of state, the interior minister, the justice minister, and information minister to ensure free and impartial elections. He pointed out that some ministers have asked to be relieved of their posts before the elections so that they will have more freedom to enter the election battle.

SUDAN

Romanian Official Arrives in Khartoum

JN221100 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Jul (SUNA) — General Victor Stanculescu, Romanian deputy minister of national defense, arrived in Khartoum yesterday evening on a 5-day visit to the country during which he will meet with President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and a number of government officials. He is accompanied by a number of officials from the Romanian ministry of foreign trade.

He was received at the airport by General Ma'ash Yusuf Hasan al-Haj, minister of state at the ministry of defense, and the Romanian ambassador in Khartoum.

About 200 Face Trial on Murder Charges

JN221125 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Jul (SUNA) — The Decisive Justice Attorney Office prosecutor in the national capital, Khartoum, has said that the investigation into the death of Mahmud Hasib, former Kordofan Province Commissioner and communications minister, who was killed in his office at the beginning of this month, [has been concluded]. Hasib was killed by two bullets fired by Muhammad 'Uthman al-Maqbul, who worked as an administrative officer in Kordofan Province.

In another development, the Decisive Justice Attorney Office prosecutor explained that the prosecution has begun referring about 200 people accused of premeditated murder to the Courts of Decisive Justice and that sentences have been passed in some

cases.

Numayri Addresses Kassala Citizens at Rally

JN212043 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1845 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Kassala, 21 Jul (SUNA) — In his speech to the masses here this evening President Numayri said that the 25 May Revolution, which struggled to enable the homeland to proceed along the course of progress and to replace the old ways with new ones that will be harmonious with this age, will continue to exert utmost efforts to bring the homeland closer to the reality of this age without relinquishing any of the special traits which characterize the Sudanese Muslim society and without harming any of its people's values and traditions.

President Numayri added that the return to God and resorting to his law absolutely does not mean estrangement from this age in which we live and a remoteness from a world with which we deal and from whose science, industry, and civilization we benefit. He added that those who attained a prominent position in civilization and science today were those who had benefited from the civilization of the first Muslims.

President Numayri explained that some imagined that Sudan's current course will make it go backward, and they began casting doubts on Sudan's relations with other countries and friends. President Numayri added that some skeptics have started to cast doubts about the future and to undermine one's confidence in it. He added: They have forgotten that Islam is both a religion and a state and that present Sudan is not preaching Islam in a country which has not known Islam before. What present Sudan has done was only to rekindle the fire that had died down and to make the people return to a course from which we have deviated.

President Numayri stressed that Islam does not mean isolation from the world or superiority over the world. He emphasized that Sudan will continue to be with friends in the world who in turn will be at Sudan's side. He said that Sudan will continue to be open to the world, giving and taking what is good.

President Numayri said that Sudan will remain for its neighbors, will respect the right of its neighbors, and that Sudan is committed to the charters of its homeland and to other international charters which call for the protection of one's neighbor and for strengthening relations with its neighbors. However, Sudan will not allow any of its neighbors to become a platform from which hostility is directed against Sudan, and will not accept any neighbor returning Sudan's loyalty by exporting troubles, sabotage, and conspiracies to it. President Numayri said that the eastern region in Sudan is the neighbor of a country with whose people the Sudanese people have strong and unique relations, but whose rulers are escalating hostility against our country under weak pretexts and accusations they have failed to substantiate or prove. All this is happening while the world at large knows that there are training camps in Ethiopia and that Ethiopia is training conspirators and backs every attack by the rebels against southern Sudan.

President Numayri said that the Sudanese People's Armed Forces have succeeded in establishing control over the border

areas with Ethiopia and that outlaws have fled inside Ethiopian territory, where they are trained and sponsored by the Ethiopian ruler. The president said that Sudanese do not seek hostility. Sudan, he said, has never directed its arms against any of its neighbors, but has been a protective shield seeking stability for its territory and also for its neighbors.

The president said that Sudan has on more than one occasion called for reaching a formula to guarantee stability for itself and its neighbors, but that those who harbor ill will toward Sudan did not respond to this call and appeal because of the pressures that were being exerted on them.

President Numayri said that eastern Sudan is hosting a friendly people who came to Sudan due to the coercion and injustice they suffered in their own territory. The people of eastern Sudan, he said, were generous and merciful to these people. They shared their livelihood with them. The president said: All along the eastern, southern, and western borders of our country we are hosting hundreds of thousands of refugees. The doors are open to them. We are acting in accordance with Islam and our traditions.

The president said that Sudan is going ahead with its plans to enable these refugees to achieve self-sufficiency and depend on themselves. He said that at the same time Sudan is seeking the support of world organizations to enable those who have left their countries due to the harshness of nature or fellow human being to again live a respectable life in their own countries.

President Numayri announced that Sudan continues to abide by its principles and stands and that it will not succumb to pressures or plots. He said that Sudan calls for and seeks peace. The president reiterated that Sudan seeks peace with an open heart and a sincere desire. And, if the others reject peace, then the Sudanese people and Army can repulse all conspirators, he said.

Numayri Performs Prayers; Addresses Citizens

JN201934 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 20 Jul (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri performed Friday prayers at the People's Armed Forces' Mosque in Khartoum today. Following the prayers, President Numayri delivered a speech. The speech dealt with prayers and his visits to the central and northern regions. It also dealt with alms [zakat]. President Numayri explained that zakat is Islam's third pillar and one of the state's economic bases.

Replying to questions related to the stands of the defendants who stood trial before the decisive justice courts were established, President Numayri stressed that they were tried in a just manner and in accordance with the proper procedures and by judges whose characters were above suspicion and their knowledge unsurpassed. However, he said: The president has the right to show clemency at all times out of mercy for people and eagerness to seek God's forgiveness.

President Numayri said: Our visit to the central and northern regions strengthened our belief that comprehensive justice and security for all citizens constitutes the basis of the good state.

President Numayri said that the penal code, regardless of its origin, is a law to which all those who reside in Sudan are subjected. He said that the state has issued this law in accordance with its sovereignty on its territories. He added that the state has the right to prevent any action considered as menacing to society and to punish the wrongdoers whether they are Sudanese, foreigners, or non-Muslims. He said that foreigners and non-Muslims should respect the law to avoid punishment by the law.

President Numayri spoke about Sudan's relations with foreign states and organizations. He said that these relations are free from religious sensitivity. He added: We assure the brother Christians inside and outside Sudan, particularly the Church that takes care of the Christians' spiritual affairs, that Islam does not deprive freedom of faith and belief.

President Numayri concluded that coexistence among all religions will be as it has always been, the government's major concern.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Denies Use of Mauritanian Territory

NC211201 Paris AFP in English 1151 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Algiers, July 21 (AFP) — The Polisario Front, which is fighting Morocco for control of the Spanish Sahara territory, today officially denied Moroccan charges that attacks it carried out in the south of the territory earlier this month had been mounted from nearby Mauritania. In a statement to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Polisario External Relations official Salem Ould Salek said: "Sahrawi Forces had no need to go through the territory of other countries to attack Moroccan forces in the Western Sahara, given that they (the Polisario guerrillas) control most of the territory."

Moroccan ruler King Hassan II yesterday charged that the Polisario guerrillas mounted two attacks in the region of Dakhla, a peninsula town facing Mauritania in the far south of the Western Sahara, from Mauritanian territory on July 13 and 19. If such attacks continued, the king said, "Our royal forces will be forced... to harass the attackers back to their original bases."

The king's charges "are part of his policy of obstinately refusing resolutions of the OAU (Organization of African Unity) for a peaceful settlement of the Western Sahara conflict," Mr Ould Salek said.

The OAU which has been deadlocked over a 1982 decision to admit the Polisario's contested Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) as an OAU member, has called on Morocco and the Polisario to hold direct talks.

Although Algeria has been supporting Polisario in its war with Moroccan Forces in the Western Sahara, there has so far been no official reaction in Algiers to the king's charges.

Reportage of Polisario-Moroccan Clashes

El Aargub, Bou Craa Attacks

LD211325 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] A statement issued yesterday by SDAR Ministry of Information and Culture in the liberated territories said that the Saharan Popular Liberation Army attacked on 19 July the Moroccan forces in the first defensive lines of the wall protecting El Aargub region. The attack left 43 dead and a number of wounded in the ranks of the Moroccan forces in addition to the destruction of large quantities of weapons and military hardware. Two days before this, Moroccan positions south-west of Bou Craa were subjected to an attack leaving more than 22 dead and wounded in addition to other material losses.

Attack in Amgala Region

LD222119 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] A statement issued today by the Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture said that on the 19th of this month the Saharan People's Liberation Army attacked two positions of the Moroccan forces stationed at (Rous Faddrat Edjar) in the Amgala region killing six Moroccan soldiers and wounding several others.

The Saharan statement added that on the same day three Moroccan soldiers were killed and two others wounded during an attack launched by the Saharan army on a position of the Moroccan forces stationed at (Rous Ouedei El Ouer) also in the Amgala region.

On the 20th of this month the Saharan forces also attacked Moroccan forces stationed at Smul Niran which is situated between Zag and Jdiria killing 10 soldiers and wounding eight others [words indistinct] trenches.

Dakhla 'Territory' Attacks

NC201315 Paris AFP in English 1255 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Rabat, July 20 (AFP) — Polisario Front rebels carried out two attacks on a peninsula facing Mauritania in the extreme south-west of disputed Western Sahara on July 13 and 19, it was officially announced here today. The attacks were said to have taken place on the "territory" of Dakhla, although it was not clear whether the town of Dakhla itself was hit.

No casualty figures, either for the Moroccan forces or the guerrillas, were given. The two sides have been battling for control of the former Spanish Sahara since 1975. The Algerian-backed guerrillas have claimed a number of attacks in the north of the territory over the past few weeks but these have been consistently denied by the Rabat government.

Today's announcement said the attacks took place from Mauritania, which has recently been at odds with Morocco over its decision to recognise the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic

which the guerrillas have declared to be the legitimate government of Western Sahara.

Moroccan ruler King Hassan II has sent a protest over the attacks to Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala.

Dakhla, located on a peninsula opposite Mauritania, is the capital of the Tiris El Gharbia region, which has been under Moroccan administration since August 1979.

Polisario Claims 73 Killed

PA210400 Paris AFP in English 0343 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Algiers, July 21 (AFP) — Western Sahara's Polisario guerrillas said here Friday they had killed 73 Moroccan troops in attacks on four Moroccan positions in the Dakhla and Bou Craa regions earlier this week.

The announcement came hours after King Hassan II of Morocco had admitted that the guerrillas had twice attacked the Dakhla area on July 13 and 17. He warned that his troops would pursue the guerrillas into nearby Mauritania if necessary and also protested strongly to Mauritania, which has recently decided to recognise Polisario.

The Polisario communique said the guerrillas killed 43 Moroccans on July 19 in fierce fighting at the sand wall protecting the town of El Aargub. Two days earlier, 15 Moroccan soldiers were killed at (Ghor Menkara), southwest of Bou Craa, three in an attack at Smul Niran, between Jdiria and Zag, and 12 at nearby (Gasbet Aridh), the statement said.

The Moroccans gave no casualty figures on either side in their announcement, which was the first time since 1981 they had accused Mauritania, which initially jointly occupied the former Spanish Western Sahara with Morocco in 1975, of allowing Polisario to use Mauritania as a base.

Mauritania has denied any guerrillas are using its territory. One officer told reporters earlier this month that "the Polisario has solid support in the region and has no need to cross through Mauritanian territory for its military operations in Western Sahara."

The Algerian-backed guerrillas have been fighting Moroccan occupation of Western Sahara since Spain withdrew in 1975. Mauritania made peace with the Polisario in 1978 and pulled out its troops.

(A Spanish trawler was fired on and seized Friday by Mauritanian patrol boats off the Mauritanian coast, Spanish maritime radio reported. The ship, the *Cigala*, was taken to the port of Nouadhibou, while two other Spanish trawlers managed to escape, the radio said.)

ETHIOPIA

Gambia's Jawara Sees Mengistu During Stopover
EA212300 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
 1700 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC and COPWE chairman, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and current OAU chairman, has exchanged views with the president of the Republic of the Gambia, President Dawda Jawara. The two leaders exchanged views during President Dawda Jawara's short stopover today at Bole International Airport on his way to Lagos from Saudi Arabia.

Our comrade revolutionary leader and President Jawara's exchange of view at the airport's special lounge centered on African issues and in particular on the situation in the Western Sahara, Chad, and southern Africa. During the exchange of views Comrade Chairman Mengistu briefed President Jawara on the continent's important problems and President Jawara briefed our comrade revolutionary leader on the conference he attended in Saudi Arabia.

EPLF Expects Attack After USSR's Petrov's Visit
EA212224 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
 1400 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] office in Mogadishu today say that the current visit to Abyssinia by the Soviet deputy defense minister is to finalize a grand scheme to launch a fresh armed offensive against Eritrea by Abyssinia and its allies. The reports confirm that the fresh campaign aims to destroy the ongoing joint struggle of the Eritrean people to achieve their rights to self-determination.

The reports add that the Soviet deputy defense minister made a similar visit to Abyssinia in 1978, after which the Abyssinian regime launched the well-publicized Red Star Campaign against the Eritrean people which ended with great reverses and a humiliating defeat for the Abyssinian forces and their allies. The reports say that the new armed offensive by Abyssinia and its allies will suffer a similar fate at the hands of the intrepid fighters of the Eritrean forces.

The reports from the EPLF office in Mogadishu add that the Soviet deputy defense minister had talks on the overall position of his forces and cooperation on defense with the leader of the Addis Ababa regime, Mengistu Haile Mariam, the regime's defense minister, and the commander of the Second Army, based in Eritrea.

Briefs

World Bank Loan Approved — [All figures as heard] The World Bank has approved a loan of 40,000,000 dollars to finance the sixth five-year development programme of the Ethiopian Telecommunications Authority. The 82,800,000 birr, 40,000,000 dollar loan from the bank was approved yesterday following [word indistinct] for credit facilities made by the authority of the World Bank and other international lending agencies, particularly with the aim of securing the foreign exchange component. A press release by the authority disclosed that the total amount required for the implementation of the authority's sixth development programme was about 314,000,000 birr out of which around 240,000,000 birr or 103,000,000 dollars is needed in foreign exchange while the remaining 100,000,000 birr is to be paid in local currency. (?When) this five-year development programme becomes fully operational it will raise the level of the authority's service twofold, the authority's press release said. [Excerpt] [Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 21 Jul 84 EA]

Outgoing Envoys — Mengistu Haile Mariam today bade farewell to Mr Alain Bry, Dr Hector Mendizabal, Mr Blankson, Mrs Fatuma Tatunuv, and Mr Wolfgang-Ruediger von Pachelbel-Gehag, the ambassadors to Ethiopia of France, Argentina, Nigeria, Tanzania, and FRG, respectively. He also received the letter of accreditation of the new Egyptian ambassador, Mr (Ahmad Sha'ban Terzan). [Text] [Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 21 Jul 84 EA]

KENYA

Briefs

Outgoing Lesotho, Rwandan Envoys — The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, has affirmed Kenya's support for the total liberation of Namibia. Mr Mwangale repeated Kenya's position on Namibian independence when he met at his office in Nairobi the outgoing Lesotho ambassador to Kenya, Mr Ntlhakana. The minister said the path to Namibia's independence should be strictly in accordance with UN Resolution 435. Mr Mwangale also held talks with the outgoing Rwandan ambassador to Kenya, Mr Munyeshyaka. [Excerpt] [Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Jul 84 EA]

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Trial of Coup Plotters Resumes*AB201451 Paris AFP in French 1225 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] Bangui, 20 Jul (AFP) — The proceeding of the Bangui special tribunal, charged with the trial of persons involved in the 3 March 1982 abortive coup, resumed on Friday morning at the CAR palace of justice before a large crowd. In the dock were ex-colonel Gaston Ouedane, former minister of public service, labor, and social welfare, and ex-Major Jerome Allam, former secretary of state for planning, being prosecuted for breach of internal state security.

The two accused people were reported to have been arrested a while after the failure of the coup. They have since been in detention at the Ngaragba central prison while the instigators of the coup, Mr Patasse (in exile in Togo) as well as the two ex-Generals Alphonse Mbaikoua (former minister of state for justice and keeper of the seals) and Francois Bozize (former minister of information and culture) remain fugitives from justice.

The Bangui tribunal, sitting in public audience on Tuesday, sentenced Mr Theodore Bagayombo, a senior agricultural technician, to a 5-year prison term for breach of internal state security, for participating in a group in order to provoke movements of disorder and rebellion, engaging propaganda to instigate the citizens to revolt against the ruling government authorities, inciting civil strife, and encouraging devastation, massacre, and looting.

Ex-Lieutenant Marc Benemaina, who is facing the same charges as Bagayombo, was sentenced to an 8-year prison term with hard labor.

ZAIRE

AFP-AZAP Financial Disputes 'Settled'*AB211000 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1250 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] Brussels, 20 Jul (AZAP) — All the financial disputes that have been occurring for several years between AZAP and AFP have been settled thanks to the personal intervention of the founding-chairman of the MPR, president of the republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, who has once again shown his concern for the mass media in Zaire.

Citizen Ramazani Baya, president delegate general of AZAP, who has been visiting Paris since last Wednesday, confirmed this during a working dinner he had at the headquarters of the AFP with his AFP counterpart, Henri Pigeat. During this working dinner, they reviewed cooperation between the two agencies. Citizen Ramazani Baya expressed happiness about the implementation of the agreement signed last April between the two agencies under which AZAP receives AFP services by satellite.

This medium of modern transmission, which went into effect last week, keeps AZAP out of any atmospheric disturbances and enables it to get better services both in quality and in quantity.

Earlier, Citizen Ramazani, after having thanked Mr Pigeat for his warm welcome, said AFP's decision to reopen its Kinshasa bureau is an indication of a new approach to information which does not give priority to sensationalism. He said Zaire was getting used to seeing foreign journalists only when there is war or rebellion and expressed the hope that the reopening of the AFP bureau will contribute to the strengthening of relations between their two peoples.

For his part, the director general of AFP confirmed his intention to go to Zaire next August for the reopening of the Kinshasa bureau of AFP. According to him, this is evidence of the interest his country and especially his agency has in Zaire. He also expressed happiness about the improved dynamism in the cooperation between the two agencies and about the help AZAP gave AFP in accelerating the reopening of its Kinshasa bureau.

ECOWAS Council of Ministers Session Held in Lagos

Nigerian, Guinean Address Session

AB211055 Lagos NAN in English 1000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, July 20 (NAN) — The Council of Ministers of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) today began its 15th session and back which will last three days. It is being attended by all the 16-member-states of the community.

Addressing the opening session in Lagos, [Nigerian] minister of national planning, Chief Michael Adigun, asked the ministers to concentrate on "the integration of the sub-region into one powerful economic entity, united in all ramifications." He pointed out that member-countries could not hope to win the battle against poverty and backwardness if they stood alone as individual nations, adding that even stronger economies in Europe, America and Asia were coming together to form blocs.

Chief Adigun said that ECOWAS should be seen as a "forum for greater bargaining power within the international community" and that the interests of each member-state should be protected by others in the community. He assured the ministers of Nigeria's preparedness to "sustain the interests of all member-states" and warned that "petty interest" must not be allowed to divide the organisation's ranks.

Also addressing the inaugural meeting, the Guinean minister of finance, Mr Kemoko Keita, who is also the chairman of the ECOWAS Council of Ministers, said that his country would adhere to the ECOWAS treaty and would also shoulder all its responsibilities. He said that the current economic difficulties faced by member-states demanded that the community should present a common front to the developed countries, adding that the situation gave member-states an opportunity to develop and intensify efforts to enhance co-operation among developing countries. He promised that during his tenure, Guinea would ensure that all meetings, including those of the heads of state of the ECOWAS sub-region, were held as planned.

At the opening, the nomination of Mali and Nigeria as rapporteurs of the meeting was unanimously approved. The meeting then went into a closed session for the presentation of the executive secretary's report.

Issues to be considered at the current session include the ECOWAS motor vehicle and brown card scheme, the possibility of creating a monetary zone in the sub-region, including the Ecobank project, the policy framework for economic recovery in the sub-region and the programme of trade liberalisation, including the issue of community enterprises.

Other issues to be considered are the report of the ad hoc ministerial committee on the construction of the ECOWAS fund secretariat and the ECOWAS headquarters, the report of the ad hoc ministerial committee on derogation, the telecommunications programme and the transport programme.

The current session was originally scheduled to take place in Guinea in May but was postponed because of the death of President Sekou Toure.

Meeting Ends; Communique Issued

AB221448 Lagos NAN in English 1426 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, July 22 (NAN) — The Council of Ministers of ECOWAS has adopted a report of its commission on trade, customs, immigration, money, and payment, the council said in a communique issued yesterday at the end of its two-day [as received] meeting in Lagos.

The council also adopted the report of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks relating to the creation of a single monetary zone and the West African economic recovery programme. It also said that the council adopted the emblem of the community and requested the promoters of Ecobank to take trade promotion within the sub-region into account. It said that it took note of the report presented by the executive secretary of ECOWAS, Dr Abubakar Ouattara, who stressed the need to strengthen the cooperation among member states and to establish contact with countries and financial institutions for financial assistance within the context of regional cooperation.

In compliance with the decision of heads of state and government, the council recommended the following up of the construction of the funds headquarters in Lome. It selected the firm of M. Pierre Goudiaby Atepa, Dakar, for the architectural design. All the member-states of ECOWAS were represented at the meeting, its 15th session, while representatives of MULPOC [Multinational Programming and Cooperation Center] of Niamey, the West African Health Community and the Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce were observers.

GHANA

Police Chief Asks for End to Factional Fighting

AB201514 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The inspector general of police, Mr S.S. Omane has appealed to Mamprusis and Kusasis to exercise restraint in their conflict and assist security agencies to maintain peace in the Bawku area. Speaking to the two factions at separate meetings at Bawku, Mr Omane observed that Ghanaians have only two enemies to fight. These are external aggressors and hunger. He therefore urged that both sides to avoid unnecessary bloodshed. The inspector general of police said the nation should not be saddled with unnecessary problems.

Mr Omane who is in Bawku for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation in the recent clashes between the two factions, asked the security agents deployed in the Bawku district on operations to comport themselves in the face of any provocation. Meanwhile, according to our Upper East correspondent, life is returning to normal in the Bawku township. The official death toll in the 3-day conflict has so far been put at 26.

GUINEA-BISSAU

President Outlines Government Objectives

AB200935 Paris AFP in French 0745 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Bissau, 20 Jul (AFP) — The president of Guinea-Bissau, Brigadier General Joao Bernardo Vieira, on Thursday called for rigor, discipline and cohesion in his address at the swearing-in of members of the new government. Members of the new government, the formation of which had been expected since the legislative elections, were made known Tuesday.

Speaking before the national assembly, President Vieira stressed that the new government intended to fight "splinter tactics and negligence" and enforce a "policy of rigor, discipline, cohesion, and organization," as the future of Guinea-Bissau depends on the collective and individual efforts of all.

The implementation of the 4-year development plan adopted last year, he continued, should constitute the basis of action to stabilize and revive the nation's economy. President Vieira particularly called on farmers to make every necessary effort to increase agricultural production to ensure self-sufficiency in food.

On foreign policy, President Vieira said the new government will pursue a policy of nonalignment and will continue its struggle for the establishment of a new and just world economic order.

He reaffirmed Guinea-Bissau's desire to develop ties of friendship and cooperation with its neighboring countries — Senegal and Guinea — and to pursue a policy of friendship with all nations of the world, especially those who have contributed to the efforts to rebuild the nation.

The president of Guinea-Bissau also expressed his government's readiness to continue the struggle to transform southern Africa into a zone of peace.

LIBERIA

Doe Announces Draft Constitution Approved

*AB201320 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1115 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Speech by Head of State Samuel Kanyon Doe in Monrovia at the presentation of the results of the referendum on the draft constitution for Liberia — live]

[Summary] "Mr Deputy Vice Head of State; Mr Speaker; Mr Secretary General and members of the People's Redemption Council [PRC]; Mr Chief Justice and the (?Council) of Justices of the Supreme Court; members of the cabinet; Mr Chairman and members of the Special Military Tribunal; Mr Chief of Staff and officers and members of the Armed Forces of Liberia; Mr Chairman and members of the Elections Commission; Mr Chairman and members of the Constitutional Advisory Assembly; superintendents, elders, paramount chiefs; Mr Dean and members of the diplomatic corps; members of the clergy; members of

the legal and other (?state) institutions; members of confessions and members of the business community; students; distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

"The revised timetable for the return to civilian rule approved on 12 April 1984 stated clearly that the official results of the [words indisinct] of the constitution should be submitted to the PRC for release to the public." It is against that background, fellow citizens, that I stand before you today to announce the results of the first national referendum on the constitution of the second republic. True to our commitment to return the country to civilian rule, we have endeavored to fulfill all our obligations. I deem it a great obligation, therefore, to stand before you and the whole nation to proclaim them:

The Election Commission submitted that due to several difficulties it could not succeed in registering a projected number of voters, that is, 977,826 persons: The total number of registered voters was 689,959 persons. "The commission, therefore, recommended to the council that the decision of the referendum should be based on the majority of votes cast, and not on the majority of registered voters. Having approved the commission's recommendation, we deem it our duty at this time to declare the constitution duly approved, [applause] based on the following results:

"Approved ballots: 550,113
Rejected ballots: 7,771
Abstained ballots: 13,759"
[all figures as heard]

Further on Approval

*AB201658 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1600 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] The revised draft constitution of Liberia has been approved by the people of Liberia. The head of state, Commander in Chief [CIC] Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe announced this today in a nationwide radio broadcast at the Smithsonian Memorial Pavilion in Oxford Street in Monrovia. The CIC gave details from a report submitted by the Special Elections Commission on the 3 July referendum to approve or reject the revised draft constitution.

According to the report, a total of 689,929 people voted in the referendum. Five hundred and forty thousand one hundred and thirteen voted in favor of the constitution, 7,771 voted against and there were 14,739 abstentions. The report further said there were 4,248 questioned ballots, an apparent reference to ballots which were not appropriately marked.

Head of state CIC Doe then thanked members of the Special Elections Commission and the Constitutional Advisory Assembly for their sacrificial services rendered the nation and the people of Liberia. However, the CIC said that prosperity of the second republic will depend on the conduct of the Liberian people following the adoption of the new constitution.

Meanwhile, the Constitution Advisory Assembly has been dissolved by the People's Redemption Council [PRC]. Announcing this in Monrovia today, Head of State Doe said the Advisory Assembly has completed its work. This is the second group in the constitutional forces to be dissolved by the PRC. It can be recalled that following the completion of its work last year, the commission responsible for the drafting of the new constitution was also dissolved by the PRC. The constitution drafting commission at the time was chaired by the professor of political science at the University of Liberia, Dr Amos Sawyer.

The next major step now in the transitional period to civilian rule is the lifting of the ban on political activities which is expected to take place on 26 July when Liberians will be celebrating their 137th independence anniversary.

Doe Named Head of Interim Government; PRC Dissolved
AB221245 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
 1200 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] A day following the acceptance of the revised draft constitution by the Liberian people, Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe has announced the dissolution of the People's Redemption Council, PRC, and replaced it with an Interim National Assembly in which he was reportedly elected president. The news of the Interim Assembly was made known to the Liberian people Saturday evening following the interruption of normal radio and television programs on the national station, LBS [Liberia Broadcasting service].

The president of the new Interim Assembly, Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe, said that the decision followed several days of extensive discussions by the then PRC. The new move, according to the commander in chief, is in no way designed to interfere with the (ensuing) lifting of the ban on political activities, but the body, he said, will (instead serve as) the present government in the process of returning the country to civilian rule.

The new Interim National Assembly has 57 members including members of the then PRC. Liberia's Ambassador to Great Britain [Harry Moniba] was named vice president of the Interim Assembly while former co-chairman of the PRC, J. Nicholas Podier, was appointed speaker of the assembly. Nathaniel Seton and Robert L.E. Bright will serve as first and second deputy speakers, respectively. J. Patrick K. Biddle becomes secretary general of the assembly while Tambakai Jangaba will serve as assistant secretary general.

The 57 assembly members, according to the assembly's president, will be sworn in on July 26 during ceremony marking the 137 independence anniversary of Liberia and the lifting of the ban on political activities.

Doe on Interim Government

AB220831 Paris AFP in English 0800 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Monrovia, July 22 (AFP) — Liberia's military rulers have appointed head of state Samuel Doe as president and a civilian as vice-president of a 52-member interim government to administer the country during preparations for a return to civilian rule in 18 months, Mr Doe himself announced on state radio and television here late Saturday.

He said the move "was in no way designed to interfere" with the lifting of the ban on political activities next Thursday. The interim government would instead assist in implementing the process of returning the country to civilian rule in January 1986, Mr Doe added. He said the national assembly members would be sworn in on July 26 during ceremonies marking Liberia's 137th independence anniversary and the lifting of the ban on political activities.

AFP Examines Political Developments

AB221308 Paris AFP in English 1223 GMT 22 Jul 84

[By Patrick Van Roekeghem]

[Text] Abidjan, July 22 (AFP) — The recent adoption of a new Liberian constitution calling for return to civilian rule and multi-party democracy is an important step for this West African nation after four years of military government, West African analysts said. But the move comes against a background of severe economic problems, and the observers said the coming five months would be crucial for Liberia's future.

Under the constitution, whose adoption by a popular referendum July 3 was announced officially Friday by President Samuel K. Doe, the ban on political activities imposed when the military ousted the William Tolbert Government in 1980 will be lifted this week and elections held in October 1985. Yesterday the military appointed Mr Doe as head of a 52-member interim government to administer the country during preparations for the return to civilian government.

At the time of the 1980 coup, launched according to the military to halt widespread corruption under the former regime, Mr Doe promised a return to civilian rule once the ground was prepared for a true liberal democracy.

In announcing the new constitution, Mr Doe said the document would be applied to the letter and assured the Liberian people that the ruling People's Redemption Council (PRC) would keep its promises, "as it had done in the past."

A decision by military rulers to return to the barracks after several years of state control is a relatively rare happening in Africa, and the rest of the region is certain to pay close attention to the Liberian experiment.

The first step toward civilian rule following the adoption of the constitution is to come Thursday, the 137th anniversary of Liberia's independence, when the four-year-old ban on political activities will be lifted. From that day, political parties will be

able to register with an election commission in preparation for legislative elections scheduled for October 1985, and the reins of power are officially to be handed to the newly elected government January 6, 1986.

The decision to return to civilian government comes against a background of severe economic problems which have resisted efforts by the military regime to build a basis for solid economic growth. An aggressive drive launched in 1980 by the government against fiscal fraud and corruption has been carried out only sporadically in tandem with a series of draconian measures aimed at collecting taxes.

The military government has recently introduced certain goodwill measures in an effort to boost investor confidence, such as the return of property confiscated from officials of the ousted government at the time of the coup. It has also moved to attract foreign investment by authorizing non-Africans to hold land in Liberia, something which had been (?included in) the country's (?1984) constitution.

The government has also been trying desperately to meet certain conditions set by the International Monetary Fund and other international credit organizations in an effort to improve Liberia's financial situation. As part of this effort, authorities have cut government salaries and reduced other aspects of public spending, but apparently without much overall impact on the government deficit.

In the context of this difficult economic situation, developments over the next five months will be decisive in defining Liberia's future as the country turns a new page in its history, observers said.

NIGERIA

Lagos Commentary Examines OPEC Membership
AB201446 Lagos International Service in English
 0830 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Commentary by Ishola Dada]

[Text] In recent years, OPEC has come under attacks from various sides. The reasons for these attacks varied according to the motives of the groups making such attacks and the interests they represented. For example, in 1973 when the OPEC successfully flexed its muscles in defiance of all machinations by the powerful consumer nations, otherwise known as the industrialized countries, and for the first time dictated the price of crude produced by its members, the western allies, led by the United States and Britain and the oil cartel, did not take kindly to OPEC's action. In the same manner, but for a different reason, some developing countries, otherwise known as the Third World, felt very uneasy about it too.

Apparently they feared that because of the poor state of their economies, they stand to lose more than anybody else as a result of the increase in the price of OPEC's oil. They were vindicated later in the position they held in that they had to pay more for the finished petroleum products they imported. Their energy bills soared by all-time-high record as a result. Not only that, they had to pay more because the increase in the American, Japanese, and West European oil bill was passed to them in the form of goods imported from these countries.

Back here in Nigeria, there has always been a continuous discussion about the wisdom of the country retaining its membership of the OPEC or pulling out of it. In fact, during the last two electioneering campaigns in 1979 and 1983, the discussions became very fierce. However, the ruling party and the government of the day decided that it was in the best interest of Nigeria to remain in the OPEC, although the decision did not stem the debate on the issue. Rather, the continued deteriorating situation of the country's economy and its foreign exchange problem seemed to have rekindled the discussion on Nigeria's continued membership of the OPEC, particularly in view of the ceiling placed on the production quota of 1.3 million barrels a day allocated to Nigeria was no longer realistic and, therefore, inadequate to meet the country's need and consequently to aid its economic revival as planned by the present military administration. For all intents and purposes, an increase of about 50 percent in oil production was necessary to offset the effect of the world recession on the Nigerian economy.

Therefore it did not come as a surprise when our minister for petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, presented our request for an increase of about 300,000 barrels a day to the recent OPEC ministerial meeting in Vienna, Austria. This action was inevitable if Nigeria was to improve her economy and justify her membership of the organization. Happily, she has achieved the two goals through the (?perception) of the OPEC and especially the understanding shown by Saudi Arabia, the largest oil-producing member of the organization. For one thing, although the increase granted was a bit below what Nigeria requested for, an increase of between 100,000 to 130,000 barrels a day granted to Nigeria will no doubt help a little in increasing our foreign exchange earnings and provided us some funds to service part of our foreign debt while the IMF remained [words indistinct] in its conditions to granting us the loan we have sought from it. For another, by acceding to Nigeria's request to increase her oil production quota, members of the OPEC have shown that they can be flexible and act in good faith where the economic situation of a member state needs their sympathetic consideration. Finally, by this action, the OPEC has demonstrated its ability to keep its rank and file intact and that, in this connection, no sacrifice is too great to great to achieve this goal and prove the organization's detractors wrong.

NIGERIAN TIDE Opposes Black African League Idea
AB211215 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NIGERIAN TIDE* completely opposes the formation of a federation of black African states as proposed by the Zairian president. The paper believes that the formation of such league will destabilize the Organization of African Unity, OAU. The *TIDE* is of the view that a federation of black African states would be ineffective in solving the problems confronting the OAU.

Expelled UK Diplomats Leave Lagos for Home
AB221110 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] The two British diplomats asked to leave Nigeria by the Federal Military Government have left Lagos for home. They are John Harrison, a counsellor, and Mr Steward Evans, an attache. Their expulsion was a reciprocal action which followed the return of the two Nigerian diplomats from Britain by the British Government over the Umaru Dikko affair.

The two Nigerian diplomats, Mr Peter Oyedele, a counsellor, and Mr Okon Edet, an attache, returned to the country earlier in the week.

SENEGAL

1 Killed in Union Confederation Factional Clashes
AB201830 Paris AFP in English 1810 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Dakar, July 20 (AFP) — One person died and about 40 were wounded in clashes between opposing factions of the National Confederation of Senegalese Workers here today, according to informed sources.

Fighting broke out as some members of the confederation, a trade union close to the ruling Socialist Party, tried to prevent members of a group opposed to the confederation leadership from holding a meeting.

Police had to intervene to break up the fighting and asked traders to close their shops in case there was further trouble.

Frontline States' Communique on Defense Meeting
MB220930 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0700 GMT 22 Jul 84

["Final communique" of the Frontline States' ninth Interministerial Defense and Security Meeting held in Luanda from 19 to 21 July]

[Text] The ministers of defense and security from Frontline States, who met in Luanda from 19 to 21 July 1984, discussed and reviewed regional defense and security issues of mutual interest. They expressed their concern over the support rendered to puppet groups by the racist South African regime, with the aim of destabilizing southern African countries. The ministers agreed on the need to increase and strengthen cooperation between member countries in the fields of defense and security. They vehemently condemned the destabilization policy carried out by racist South Africa and demanded the withdrawal of South African troops from the occupied zones in the People's Republic of Angola. They demanded the unconditional withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia, and the subsequent implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

Likewise, the ministers noted the progress made by the defense and security forces to heighten the defense capability of member states. The ministers expressed satisfaction with the victories achieved by the liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia, and reaffirmed the continuation of political, diplomatic, and material support for liberation movements for the total eradication of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa.

The ministers were profoundly moved by the meeting they held with His Excellency Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, and expressed thanks for the guidelines they received from him.

Luanda, 21 July 1984

ANGOLA

Defense Minister Opens Training Course
MB221104 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0700 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Minister of Defense Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale yesterday morning opened in Luanda the physical and combat training course for MPLA-Labor Party and government leaders at the Commander (Chita) Political and Military School. On the occasion, the minister of defense stressed the need for us to prepare ourselves physically and morally to face the current increase in enemy actions. These are aimed at preventing the free pursuance of the Angolan revolution and are supported by international imperialism.

The training period follows a guideline of the MPLA-Labor Party, which is aimed at the carrying out of actions by militants, members of the grass roots organizations, and workers in general to deepen the popular spirit of the war and successfully conclude the war of all the people. Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha referred to this, saying that it is the best way of enlightening all the people,

mainly the residents and workers of the city of Luanda, in the defense of the fatherland and revolution.

Meanwhile, MPLA-Labor Party and Radio Nacional de Angola workers have also begun their physical and combat training.

Official Discusses Church-State Compatibility
MB210821 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0500 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Roberto de Almeida, the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee secretary for ideology, said that it was encouraging to note that at a time when the country was waging a war against a powerful enemy many members of the Methodist Church were revealing themselves as true patriots by taking part in the fight for national reconstruction. Roberto de Almeida, who was speaking at the opening session of the annual conference of the Methodist Church, added that these members understood that, despite all the differences, above all what is most important is the common characteristic which makes each of us an Angolan citizen before being a Marxist, Christian, or atheist.

Quoting the words of Bishop Emilio de Carvalho, Secretary Roberto de Almeida pointed out that the Christians' belief in God is not incompatible with the building of socialism in Angola, because the search for peace and justice is not incompatible with the faith of Christians. In Angola, every Angolan must be an agent, the builder of a collective destiny, and no political or ideological contradiction should constitute an unsurmountable obstacle for fruitful cooperation between all forces of goodwill which are capable of developing a positive work for the benefit of the people, the secretary said. Roberto de Almeida also referred to Article Seven of the Constitution, which, although it establishes a separation between the state and religious institutions, accords them respect and protection as long as they conform with the state laws.

JMPLA Meeting Urges Changes in Schools
MB211000 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0500 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The proceedings of the seventh ordinary session of the party Youth Wing (JMPLA) National Committee ended last evening after examining reports from the National Secretariat and the National Commission for Control and Improvement of Party Youth. Under the chairmanship of Domingos Bartolomeu, the JMPLA national secretary, the 2-day youth meeting reviewed the political and organizational work in schools, institutes, and faculties, and the academic performance of students, as well as the civic and moral behavior of both teachers and students. Other issues which received attention at the meeting were ideological deviation, indiscipline and disorganization in schools, as well as the lack of care for social property. Accordingly, the participants to the meeting decided to present to the MPLA-Labor Party and state leadership a series of measures that should be urgently adopted in order to positively place the schools at the service of revolution and ensure the training of young generations in the ideals of our vanguard party.

People's Assembly Delegation Returns From USSR

MB201817 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] A delegation from the People's Assembly returned home this morning after a 10-day visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet. The delegation, which was led by Deputy Kundi Payama, visited a number of regions of that socialist country, where its members met with a number of Soviet officials.

Bie Commissar Visits Chinguar After UNITA Action

MB220935 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0700 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel (Marques Monakapwe Bassovava), provincial commissar of Bie, held a meeting the day before yesterday with the residents of Chinguar municipality, in which he appealed for the heightening of vigilance with a view to detecting and annihilating the UNITA puppets. The visit by Lt Col (Bassovava) to the municipality of Chinguar was due to criminal actions by the UNITA puppets who committed a murder there.

Jorge Meets Ambassadors, Cape Verde Envoy Departs

MB221040 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0700 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] In Luanda, the day before yesterday, External Affairs Minister Paulo Jorge received in separate audiences the ambassadors of Tunisia, Vietnam, Egypt, and Bulgaria. It is thought that during the meetings with the diplomats Paulo Jorge discussed issues of bilateral interest. The Angolan external affairs minister also received, the day before yesterday, Aguinaldo Lisboa Ramos, the ambassador of Cape Verde, who said farewell at the end of his assignment in the People's Republic of Angola.

Briefs

GDR Transport Assistance — Lopo do Nascimento, the minister of planning and cochairman of the Angolan-GDR joint economic commission, said recently that the GDR was contributing a great deal to the development of transport in Angola through the supply of utilitarian vehicles and by guaranteeing repair and maintenance service. ADN pointed out that since 1976, the GDR has supplied to our country 9,500 IFAW50 trucks, and for their maintenance over 1,000 Angolan technicians have been trained in the GDR. [Text] [Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 22 Jul 84 MB]

BOTSWANA**Masire Dissolves Parliament for New Elections**

MB201702 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, today dissolved parliament to pave the way for the general election. However, Dr Masire did not announce the date for the general election which, according to the Botswana Constitution, must be held within 60 days after the dissolution of parliament.

The full text of the announcement from the office of the president states that pursuant to Section 91.2 of the Constitution, his excellency the president has dissolved parliament with effect from today, 20 July 1984. Nominations for presidential candidates have to be made not earlier than 20 days from today, and the writ of election for the general election will be issued not later than 21 days from the date of dissolution of parliament.

The election will be the fifth since Botswana became independent in 1966. The first elections were in 1965 and were followed by others in 1969, 1974, and 1979. This will be the first general election since Dr Masire took over as head of state and government after the death of Sir Seretse Khama in 1980. The election will be held against a background of a devastating drought and an increase in the number of political parties from four to six.

Three of the six parties have already announced some of their candidates for the forthcoming general election. These are ruling Botswana Democratic Party, and two opposition parties, the Botswana National Front and the Botswana People's Party. Other parties still to announce their candidates are the Botswana Independent Party, the Botswana Progressive Union, and the Botswana Liberal Party.

'Sources': Elections on 20 Oct

MB220650 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1153 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] Gaborone, July 21, SAPA — Botswana's fifth elections will be held on October 20, informed sources said in Gaborone today. President Quett Masire dissolved parliament yesterday to pave the way for the country's elections.

COMOROS**Mayotte Opposes Comoran President's Planned Visit**

AB201410 Paris AFP English 1340 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Dzaoudzi, Mayotte, July 20 (AFP) — Recent announcements by Comoran President Ahmed Abdallah that he soon planned to visit Mayotte have sparked strong opposition in this French-ruled territory, which refused to join the rest of the Comoran archipelago in declaring independence in 1975.

Reliable sources here said that commando groups had been put on alert in expectation of Mr Abdallah's trip, whose government has declared its intention of integrating Mayotte into the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros.

In 1976 a referendum this Indian Ocean island, also called Mahure, voted by a 99 percent majority to remain part of France.

The commando groups were believed to number about 100 people belonging to an organization called FAD Ampangou, which has formed in 1975 to counter a feared invasion attempt by Mr Abdallah. The groups, led by a local shopkeeper known as General Papa Joe, have been inactive for several years.

Mr Abdallah's proposed visit has also roused the anger of the assembly of Mahori women — an all-powerful group in this matriarchal society — which has pledged to "demonstrate by all possible means" its hostility to the Comoran leader.

In 1975, the women forced a group of Comoran officials to leave the island by occupying Mayotte's airport and stoning the arriving delegation.

(In Paris, a Mahori deputy to the French Parliament, Jean-Francois Hory, said that a visit by Mr Abdallah to Mayotte would be "completely inopportune".)

LESOTHO

Jonathan Praises BNP, Criticizes Opponents

MB201658 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, says that the Basotho National Party (BNP) has remained steady and unfragmented because it was founded on Christian principles and on Basotho customs and traditions. Speaking at a well-attended meeting at Ha Kaphe in the Mpharane constituency of the Mohale's Hoek district today, the prime minister said the BNP draws its strength from the power of the people, whose wishes it will continue to respect.

Dr Jonathan said other politicians in Lesotho are drawing their strength from instructions issued by Pretoria, which has always been unfriendly to Lesotho despite overtures for peaceful coexistence and good neighborliness by various Basotho leaders, including King Moshoeshoe II. The prime minister urged the people not to join parties formed by enemies of Lesotho on the pretext that Lesotho is adopting communism. They know, he said, that Basotho are Christians and are using our relations with socialist countries as a scapegoat to create a smokescreen for their dishonorable intentions of infiltrating Basotho society with apartheid.

He added that the Boers are simply trying to create a conflict between the church and the BNP. Dr Jonathan urged the people to unite and bury their differences so that the enemy cannot infiltrate their ranks. He added that, when they are united, they can present their problems with one voice and make the most economic use of their meager resources.

Giving his impressions on the four meetings he has addressed in the Mpharane constituency so far this week, the prime minister said he has found the mood and unity of the people unchanged, if not more vibrant than it was when the constituency first elected him in 1965. He said he found there is more faith in the BNP and its leadership.

He added that if he is reelected he will continue to be trustworthy and fulfill the people's wishes. In conclusion, Dr Jonathan said he has reaffirmed his faith in God, and even went on to assist church-supported institutions, but he will never embrace communism or capitalism.

Nicaraguan Envoy Calls on Education Minister

MB201246 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Nicaragua's ambassador to Lesotho, His Excellency Mr David Richards, paid a visit to the honorable minister of education, sports, and culture, Mr B.A. Tlase, yesterday. Mr Richards, who has taught for a long while, held talks with the minister on matters related to textbook writing, curriculum, and relevance of the textbook content. He also discussed ways of teaching the youth loyalty and patriotism. The minister also briefed Mr Richards about Lesotho's educational administration, which is shared by the churches, the nation, and the government.

MOZAMBIQUE

Veloso Meets With RSA Delegation on Assistance

MB201834 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Talks between delegations of Mozambique and South Africa began in Maputo this afternoon at the Ministry of Agriculture. Mozambique was represented by the minister in the presidency for economic affairs, Major General Jacinto Veloso, and South Africa by the mayor of Komatipoort, (John Henn). Speaking at the airport shortly after his arrival in Maputo, Mr (Henn) said he and his delegation will discuss possible areas of assistance to Mozambique. He said South Africa intends to help Mozambique in trade, health, and agriculture, and to bring tourism to Mozambique. The South African delegation, composed of five members, arrived in Maputo this afternoon, and it is due to return home tomorrow.

President Machel, Delegation To Visit Vietnam

MB211132 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] A communique issued this morning by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs says that a party and state delegation led by President Samora Machel will soon pay an official and friendly visit to the SRV. According to the same communique, the visit to Vietnam will be made at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the SRV State Council.

President Machel, Delegation Visit DPRK

For Maputo and Pyongyang reportage on the visit to the DPRK of a delegation led by President Samora Machel, including his talks with President Kim Il-sung in a banquet speech, see the North Korea section of the 23 July Asia and Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

FPLM Destroys Two 'Important Bandit Camps'

MB201821 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from our delegation in Tete say that the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM, on 15 July destroyed two important armed bandit camps in Mandie region. In the operations, which resulted in the destruction of the camps, a number of bandits were also killed and captured. A source with the Tete Provincial Military Command told our delegation that the camps were very important because it was from them that the armed bandits used to launch attacks on the columns traveling from Tete to Beira and vice versa. Meanwhile, operations are in progress to pursue the bandits who fled in disarray at the time of the destruction of their camps at Mandie.

Other Fighting Noted

MB220712 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0605 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Our Armed Forces have been carrying out, with characteristic strength and courage, actions to annihilate armed bandits. Thus in Inhambane Province, on 13 July the FPLM attacked two armed bandit camps in the (Njatigue) and (Maizane) areas. Six armed bandits were killed, and magazines and rucksacks were captured. Goods belonging to the people were recovered.

In Tete our forces killed four bandits and captured four boxes of ammunition.

Meanwhile in Magude, Maputo Province, AKM weapons, rucksacks, and raincoats were captured following an attack on an armed bandit group.

On 17 July, in Mocuba, Zambesia, our Armed Forces killed five bandits during a clash.

NAMIBIA

Bomb Damages Shopping Complex at Tsumeb

MB230825 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0735 GMT
23 Jul 84

[Text] Windhoek, July 23, SAPA — a bomb explosion outside a shopping complex at Tsumeb in north-central SWA/ Namibia on Saturday night caused damage estimated at R3000, police confirmed in Windhoek today. The incident occurred at about 3 pm at a business complex belonging to Mr I. Kasch. No one was injured.

The explosion was the second at Tsumeb this year and one in a series of blasts which have occurred in the territory recently. A SWA police spokesman said investigations were continuing.

SWAPO Blames RSA for U.S. Deaths at Oshakati

MB201041 Harare Voice of Namibia in English
1900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is almost 3 months now since the Oshakati bomb blast which devastated everybody, as it was never expected, occurred. What is more surprising to tell is that the leader of the occupation regime of South Africa in Namibia has declined to hold the responsibility for the bomb blast on SWAPO of Namibia. [passage indistinct] The reason that Pretoria is giving, that the mine was Soviet-made and, as such, SWAPO of Namibia is responsible for the loss of life of the two American diplomats, holds no water whatsoever, nor has any grain of truth in it. It is even ridiculous and naive for racist South Africa to make such malicious and unfounded charges against SWAPO.

It is a well-known fact, however, that racist South Africa and the United States have a large quantity of Soviet-made weapons which they use in their subversive activities in this world. They openly support all counterrevolutionary bandits all over the world, including the UNITA bandits in Angola. Thus, the fact that the bomb that killed the two Americans is of Soviet origin does not mean that SWAPO was responsible for planting it. It is also worthwhile to point out here that Oshakati, where the two Americans were blown up, is the headquarters of a notorious special murder squad of the South African Army in Namibia known as Koevoet, which is responsible for 90 percent of the multitude of atrocities committed against the population in northern Namibia. The unit is made up of locally recruited psychopaths, UNITA, Angolan National Liberation Front bandits, former [Rhodesian] Selous Scouts, and other mercenaries, mainly from Western Europe, Israel, and the United States of America.

In most cases a Koevoet member tries to impersonate a SWAPO combatant in an attempt to put the blame for their attacks on SWAPO. Pretoria must be held directly responsible for the bomb blast. The Koevoet murderers and other uncontrolled bloodthirsty and trigger-happy dogs of war attached to the South African Army in Namibia are daily carrying out wanton acts of killing, torture, thievery, raping of women, and other generalized terror throughout northern Namibia. These vicious war criminals are instruments of Pretoria's colonial policies and expansionist objectives in and around Namibia. SWAPO therefore believes that the demise of a Namibian and two U.S. officials is the work of Pretoria's notorious and murderous actions aimed at deterring the just cause of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO of Namibia. It is on this basis that SWAPO rejects with great contempt the malicious and unfounded charge made by the Pretoria regime, which is trying to put the blame for their crimes on SWAPO.

Everything for the struggle. All for final victory. Independence or death, we shall win.

SOUTH AFRICA

Talks With Angola on Accord Implementation Confirmed

*MB211136 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs has confirmed in Pretoria that South Africa is negotiating the implementation of the Lusaka Agreement with Angola. The department was reacting to a statement by the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, to the effect that South Africa and Angola were working on the details of a disengagement of hostilities in southern Angola.

A spokesman for the department said that South Africa and Angola were also making arrangements to ensure that the border between Angola and South-West Africa remained secure after the Joint Monitoring Commission had wound up its activities.

Liaison Committee Returns From Talks in Maputo

*MB220610 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] The Lowveld Liaison Committee established as a result of the Nkomati Accord to investigate ways of improving relations between the Lowveld and Mozambique has returned to Nelspruit and Komatipoort after a 2-day visit to Maputo. Fourteen proposals on ways of aiding Mozambique in the fields of commerce, industry, and tourism were submitted to the Mozambican authorities.

Talks were held with prominent officials, including the Mozambican minister of economic affairs [as heard], Mr Veloso; the minister of tourism, Mr Materrula; and a member of the office of the minister of agriculture.

A member of the Lowveld Liaison Committee, Mr (Peter Rootman), says the Mozambican Department of Economic Affairs is to appoint a committee which will keep in touch with the Lowveld on a weekly basis. Mr (Rootman) also says that a Mozambican Government delegation, including the minister of tourism, will visit the Nelspruit-Komatipoort area within three weeks.

Two Killed, Three Injured in Durban Violence

*MB230640 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT
23 Jul 84*

[Text] Two people have been killed and three others hurt in violent clashes in a Durban township. Fighting broke out at a cemetery in Lamontville yesterday. All the victims are believed to be Inkatha members. Carmel Rickard reports from Durban.

[Rickard] The violence broke out at Lamontville's (Gijima) Cemetery yesterday after the unveiling of a tombstone of township leader (Msizi Dube), who was murdered last year. More than 5,000 people had attended the service beforehand and had [word indistinct] to the cemetery. After the unveiling ceremony there was confusion in the graveyard as the rumor spread that a

busload of Inkatha supporters had arrived. I saw a group of about 50 men armed with spears, sticks, and shields. They were quite distinct from the rest of the crowd as they wore no commemorative clothing or stickers. According to the officiating minister they demanded a placard reading: Gatscha stay out. They then threatened a photographer and assaulted a community leader from (St Wendelans). Lamontville people then chased them away and it seems some fell during the chase and were attacked.

Further on Firebombing of Politicians' Homes

*MB201221 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] Petrol bombs this morning caused limited damage to the homes of four politicians involved in the coming elections for the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates. The bombs were hurled at the homes of the leader of the Freedom Party, Mr Authur Booyesen, in Veerhoff, Johannesburg, and at those of the chairmen of the two management committees in Lenasia, Mr Dennis Pillay and Mr Dinky Pillay, and the deputy leader of the Labor Party of the Transvaal, Mr Don Mateman of Eldorado Park.

The commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, says he takes a serious view of petrol bomb attacks on the homes of political candidates for the coming Colored and Indian elections, and everything possible will be done to track down the culprits.

UDP Leader Asked To Disclaim Bomb Attacks

*MB201305 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] The leader of the Labor Party, the Reverend Alan Hendrickse; the leader of the Freedom Party, Mr Arthur Booyesen; and the leader of the Peoples' Congress Party, Mr Peter Marais, have challenged the patron of the United Democratic Party, UDP, Dr Allen Boesak, to dissociate himself from bomb attacks and the disruption of meetings. They also asked Dr Boesak to condemn such action.

Party Politics Blamed for Afrikaner Differences

*MB210600 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] The chairman of FAK [Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurvereniginge — Federation of Afrikaans Cultural Organizations], Professor Gawie Cillie, says party political differences within the organization led to disunity and ineffectiveness.

In an South African Broadcasting Corporation program Professor Cillie referred to the founding of the Afrikaner Volkswag [AV] and said the way in which that organization had been established was detrimental to the real aims of the FAK. He said FAK aimed at promoting the Afrikaner's cultural affairs and that political differences should be pushed into the background. Professor Cillie said political differences were dividing the FAK into two camps.

In the same program, the leader of the AV, Professor Carel Boshoff, defended the organization's right of existence and said there had always been a need for a family organization such as the AV. The Professor Boshoff admitted that party political differences could create tension within the FAK but that on the other hand such differences could stimulate interest in the organization without causing disunity.

The chairman of the Afrikaner Broederbond said the Afrikaner was known for his traditional differences but as long as such differences were constructive they could only lead to dynamic growth within the FAK.

SWAZILAND

42 ANC Members To Leave for Tanzania by Air
MB211141 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
 0500 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] About 42 members of the ANC leave Swaziland by air for Dar es Salaam today. The group includes 25 ANC members who have had charges of illegal possession of firearms and illegal entry to Swaziland against them withdrawn. They will depart via Matsapha Airport and it is reported they will remain in custody until then. Some of the group will leave Dar es Salaam for other countries which have accepted them.

UNHCR Official Denies Plans

MB220635 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT
 22 Jul 84

[Text] Reports that ANC members were to be flown out of Swaziland have been denied by an official in Mbabane. There have been reports in the South African media that all charges against 40 ANC members were to be dropped on condition they left the country, but an official of the UN High Commission for Refugees in Mbabane, (Emmanuel Owusu), says there is no truth in the reports and that arrangements are being worked out between his organization and the Swazi authorities.

ANC Statement on Swazi Torture of Detainees
EA201632 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English
 to South Africa 1930 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Compatriots, we present you a statement released by the ANC secretary general, Comrade Alfred Nzo, on the condition of its members and refugees in Swaziland. The press release reads as follows:

The ANC has received disturbing reports about its members and refugees undergoing brutal and savage torture in the hands of the Swaziland police and security forces. Furthermore, it has been reported that these detainees have been blindfolded, their ears stopped, manacled, and later transported across the border into fascist South Africa where they are further tortured and interrogated by the brutal South African security forces.

The 48 ANC members being held by the Swazi Government have since last Wednesday, 11 July, went on a hunger strike in protest against the despicable treatment they are presently suffering. There are also reports that several of them are now mentally deranged and others have been paralyzed as a result of the brutal torture.

All these sinister incidents come after the handing over of four other members of the ANC to the South African police in (?April) and the secret burials of those who were killed in shootings by the police.

The cynical and criminal actions of the Swazi Government on the members of the ANC have to be condemned, especially after all the attempts by the ANC and the UNHCR to repatriate the detainees. The Swazi Government has at all times created obstacles and difficulties. The Swazi Government must accept full responsibility for whatever has happened and must immediately stop its brutality against the members and all refugees.

The ANC appeals to the UN secretary-general, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, to the chairman of the OAU, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, and especially to the Frontline States to intervene and make certain that the ANC members presently held by the Swazi Government are released and allowed to travel to a third country of (?their) choice which is prepared to resettle them.

(Amnzanga witu, mata cherunga). All power to the people.

Tambo Says ANC-Swazi Relations 'Basically Intact'
EA221646 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English
 to South Africa 1930 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Compatriots, the relations between the ANC and the neighbouring Kingdom of Swaziland have of late plunged to a very low ebb. This followed the revelation in March that Swaziland and racist South Africa had signed a so-called security pact secretly in 1982.

Shortly after the revelation about 80 ANC members were arrested. Two of them died in a shoot-out with Swazi police and were later buried without the consent of either the ANC or their relations. Later the ANC received reports that four of those arrested had been handed over to the vicious apartheid police with the evil connivance of some collaborators within the Swazi police force.

Throughout this time the ANC headquarters together with its representative in Swaziland, Comrade (Ablom Duma), continued efforts to diffuse the tense situation. Later on Comrade (Duma) was also arrested by the Swazi police.

Recently ANC Headquarters received shocking reports that the arrested comrades are undergoing torture at the hands of the Swazi police and that some of them had been paralyzed and others mentally disturbed. This then forced the arrested comrades to embark on a hunger strike, which started on Wednesday, 11 July.

Last Wednesday, 18 July, the ANC secretary-general issued a statement calling on the international community to condemn this crime against the fighting people of our country.

These disturbing events have made some people wonder as to the nature of relations between the ANC and the Kingdom of Swaziland. The President of the ANC Comrade Oliver Tambo answered that question in this way:

[Begin Tambo recording] The relations between the ANC and Swaziland are of very long duration. The ANC is a creature of the peoples of southern Africa, including [word indistinct] Swaziland. So, from its very inception the ANC related to Swaziland as to a country that helped to bring it about and the relations have always been very good, except now and then. Now and then (there have been problems), problems of varying degrees of seriousness, and exactly because the relations had buried its roots in history, when problems arose the Swaziland Government invited the ANC for discussions, or the ANC requested a meeting with the Swaziland Government. And there have been very many such meetings over the past nine years or so. That is the measure of the relations that fundamentally exist between the ANC and Swaziland.

Today there is a climate prevailing which would seem to suggest that some injury, some harm, has been done to those relations. But in fact what we have is a crisis in the long history of our relations, a crisis that will be resolved, I am quite confident, in discussions between the Swazi leadership (and) the government and the leadership of the ANC. We are not blind, of course, to the strength of feelings that have been generated by the most recent events. But we have not and never said that the struggle to (oppose) the evil of apartheid, the cancer of apartheid, the scourge of racism was going to (stop movement) either for the people of South Africa or for their brothers in the neighboring countries. And we do not think that events, incidents, should destroy what has already been built over decades.

That is why I would answer this question by saying that basically relations between the ANC and Swaziland, in spite of everything, remain intact. Relations between the people of South Africa and the people of Swaziland remain intact. What we need to do is to protect them against being damaged in any way. [end recording]

As explained, the ANC regards the people of Swaziland as neighbours and brothers. What then, in the view of the ANC, should the Government of Swaziland do to help normalize the relations? Comrade Tambo replies:

[Begin Tambo recording] I personally would thank His Majesty the late King Sobhuza II for the way that the relations between Swaziland and the ANC were consolidated and strengthened in the period since the independence of Mozambique and the independence of Swaziland itself. He was concerned about these relations and at a meeting that we held with him and the late prime minister [name indistinct] he said when there are problems, we must meet and discuss them. And perhaps it would be true to say there is no government in this region with which the ANC had so many meetings. It is necessary to protect these relations. We shall need them tomorrow.

I suggest the ANC and the people of South Africa need these relations now and they will do so tomorrow. I suggest that Swaziland thus in fact will in the long run be served by the defence and protection of the good relations between the Kingdom's government and the ANC which have existed for so long.

I would think that the sorrows and irritations that we have experienced, that the government has experienced, that the people of Swaziland have experienced should be placed in a historical context and seen as part of the problems that Pretoria has created for decades, has created in the past decade, in the past 3 years, for the people of this region. Problems which will be with us in increasing measure and [word indistinct] by that regime which is too [word indistinct].

As far as the ANC is concerned, it has very great respect for the honorable Prime Minister Bhikimpi. We respect him for his calm and cool disposition. We regret it is purely because of misinformation plus poor communication he has had to feature so frequently in polemical newspaper columns. We think this has been very regrettable. But when the meeting does take place, we hope we shall succeed in working out together the best way forward. [end recording]

ZAMBIA

Security Men Seal Off Hotel Savoy in Ndola

MB201319 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Armed paramilitary police in Ndola have sealed off the new Savoy Hotel in their continued cleanup operation on the copper belt. The security men moved on the hotel early in the morning sealing off all doors and gates as they staked their hosts. [as heard] They did not allow anyone to leave the hotel. The hotel's general manager, (Felix Atisho), said although it inconvenienced the guests, the security men were only doing their job, adding that they were very polite during the operation.

ZIMBABWE

Solidarity With Mozambique Marked by Officials

MB230707 Harare Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Activities marking the Zimbabwe-Mozambique solidarity were officially launched in Harare yesterday. The minister of justice, legal, and parliamentary affairs, Comrade Eddison Zvobgo, who officially launched the activities, expressed satisfaction at the friendship and solidarity which exists between Zimbabwe and Mozambique. He reiterated Zimbabwe's gratitude to Mozambique for its supports during the liberation struggle.

Speaking at the same occasion, the Mozambique minister of information, Comrade Jose Luis Cabaco, said the solidarity between the two nations stems from the untold suffering the peoples of the two countries experienced under colonial rule.

Yugoslavia To Provide Drought Relief Aid to Country

*MB201650 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] Zimbabwe will soon receive 465,000 dollars worth of drought relief food from Yugoslavia. The drought relief aid package will comprise 150 tons of meat, 200 tons of wheat flour, and 400 tons of beans. The accord covering the aid was signed in Harare today by the minister of labor, manpower planning, and social welfare, Comrade Frederick Shava, and the Yugoslav ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade Djuro Vukolic.

Comrade Shava said the aid will go a long way towards alleviating suffering caused by the drought, especially in the communal areas. The minister said the government, which has given about 10,000 tons of grain every month to people badly affected by the drought, is doing everything possible to improve food reserves. The food aid will be distributed to physical handicapped and elderly people who cannot participate in the food for work program under which people in the rural areas work for 2 dollars per day.

Mugabe Cites Progress Before Parliamentary Group

*MB201310 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, today goes to Scotland where an honorary degree of Doctor of Law is to be conferred on him by the University of Edinburgh.

Yesterday, Comrade Mugabe told the British-Zimbabwe parliamentary group that despite the current world recession and drought, Zimbabwe has made remarkable progress in social services, education, and health. The prime minister revealed that Zimbabwe now has 2.5 million children in school compared with 800,000 in 1979.

However, Comrade Mugabe noted that although the resettlement program has continued to make progress, its pace has been severely restricted by the difficult conditions attaching to British aid.

Returns From UK Visit

*MB221207 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, arrived in Harare today after a five-day visit to Britain. Thousands of people, including government ministers and members of the diplomatic corps, were at the airport to welcome him.

During his stay in Britain, Comrade Mugabe addressed a conference on the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, and also held a meeting with the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher. He was also awarded a Doctor of Law degree by Edinburgh University.

The prime minister was accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende; the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira; and the minister of agriculture, Senator Denis Norman.

Joint Communique With Bulgaria

For Bulgarian reportage on the joint communique signed with Bulgaria during the recent visit of Bulgarian Premier Grisha Filipov, see the Bulgaria section of the 19 July Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

Briefs

Airline Expansion — Air Zimbabwe is planning to operate to 13 new destinations in Africa and 4 in America and Asia as part of its expanded route system. Air Zimbabwe's planning manager, Comrade (Muringi), said in the past Zimbabwe had not aggressively initiated services to points in Africa due to lack of (transport) and reliable equipment comparable to that of its competitors. Comrade (Muringi's) statements are contained in an article in the latest issue of the corporation's publication. He also said the airline has finalized talks with aircraft brokers and manufacturers on the acquisition of new equipment. Comrade (Muringi) said it is the intention of the airline to forward the results of the negotiations to the minister of transport as soon as they are ready. Air Zimbabwe is intending to reequip itself with short, medium, and long-haul aircraft for domestic, regional, and international use. Comrade (Muringi) said Air Zimbabwe's strategy is to ensure that the airline becomes profitable and does not rely on government subsidy for its operation. Since the middle of March, the management have also been updating the airline's 5-year development plan which seeks to develop and expand its regional and international route network, linking Zimbabwe with more foreign countries. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jul 84 MB]